17 PLACES TO HANG YOUR HAT IN THE WEST

OUR 62ND YEAR

MARCH 2015

TRUE WEST

HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FRONTIER

THE SEVERED HEADS CAMPAIGN

When General Crook Went Medieval on the Apaches

By Paul Andrew Hutton

Mickey Free: Headhunter

PLUS:

WHITEWATER SURVIVAL

Exploring Old Oregon

An Inside Look at Phil Collins' Amazing Alamo Collection

Moonshiner Harvey Bruce

Joaquin Murrieta Loses His Head As Well

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LEGENDS OF THE WEST

75

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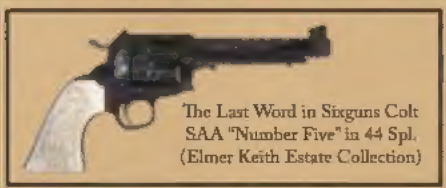
Spectacular Firearms Auction

March 15, 16 & 17, 2015 in Fairfield, Maine

Our March 2015 Firearms Auction should prove to be another stunning event with extraordinary arms from various renowned and iconic collections together with superb consignments from various collection genres. One of the featured collections to be offered will be the Iconic Elmer Keith Estate Collection of Specialty Sporting Arms, probably the most famous and prolific gun writer, scholar and big game hunter of the 20th Century. Also the Estate Collection of the Late Elliot Burka (past President of American Society of Arms Collectors) also known as "Mr. Remington". His renowned collection of Remingtons is known for its quality, rarity and diversity. The Richard Schreiber Collection of Sporting Arms - a prestigious Long Island collector; the Thomas Connally Estate Collection of Sporting Arms; the George Reeb Collection of magnificent European Sporting Arms; the Steven Harris Collection of Single Bbl Trap Guns; the Second Session of the Esteemed Norm Flayderman Estate Collection of Colts and Historic Antiques; the Second and Final Session of Evergreen Ventures Collection of Class III formerly on loan to the Evergreen Museum in Oregon; the Second Session of the Springfield Arsenal Collection of Cannons & Artillery collected by world renown Artillery expert John Morris; the Fourth Session of Dr. Geoffrey Sturgess' (Zurich, Switzerland) Collection of auto loading weapons. The finest of its type in private hands today; the Fourth session of the Dr. Douglas Sirkin Collection of KY Long Rifles and Antique; also a private important single owner collection of extraordinary Custer and Battle of Little Big Horn related objects; single owner collection of fine Winchesters and much more. Below is a sample of the fine items to be included in this spectacular sale.

The Iconic Elmer Keith Collection



The Last Word in Sixguns Colt SAA "Number Five" in 44 Spl. (Elmer Keith Estate Collection)

Factory Engraved S&W Pre-M29 .44 Mag, Presented to EK by S&W Boss Carl Helstrom (Elmer Keith Estate Coll.)

Important Colt SAA "Keith Long Range" w/ Special Sights & Bisley Hammer, for Jess Thompson Quick Draw Rig (Elmer Keith Estate Collection)

Important Award Winning Gold and Silver Finished, Gustave Young Engraved SAA 1876 Centennial Display Gun....Fresh to the Market! (Dr. Gianni Spellman Collection)

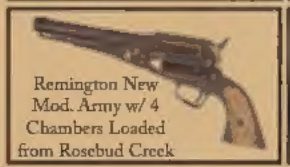
Rare Archive of Lt. Benjamin Hodgson Including Two George Custer Letters Written To Him Along with Official Certification of His Remains From Little Bighorn Battlefield

Remington Army Revolver, Holster & Farrier's Knife, Used by Lt. Wm W. Cooke at The Battle of Little Bighorn, taken from his body by Indians

Extraordinarily rare 1910 Model Marsh-Metz Winchester Branded Motorcycle. One of only 2 known to exist today.

Nearly New Cased Colt 1860 Army (One of the Finest Examples Known)

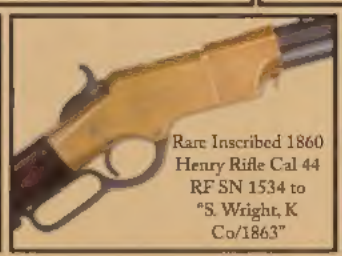
Rare & Important Factory Engraved Colt 1855 Root Presentation Revolver to "Wm Read" - Boston w/ Charter Oak Grips. Handed down & consigned by direct descendants of the Read family



Remington New Mod. Army w/ 4 Chambers Loaded from Rosebud Creek

High Condition Win 1873 Dlx Rifle Cal 44 WCF w/ Strong CC

Important Engr. Pres. Winchester 1866 SRC to Custer Expedition Photographer W. H. Illingworth in 1874, w/inscri. Watch



Rare Inscribed 1860 Henry Rifle Cal 44 RF SN 1534 to "S. Wright, K Co/1863"

Rare Winchester 1st Model 1894 Lever Action

Fabulous Colt SAA Factory Engraved .45 LC by Cuno Helfrecht Illustrated on pg. 430 of Colt Engraving Book

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WE TAKE YOU THERE

The World's Largest

After thousands of hours and more than 14 months spent creating the original eight-foot-by-15-foot canvas, Alamo historian Mark Lemon has shared with us the world's largest and most accurate and detailed painting (above) that shows a panorama of the entire battlefield and the final assault that raged at the iconic Texas fortress on March 6, 1836. "The Alamo acted as the crucible on which was formed the Republic of Texas," Lemon notes, "and is an event that is dear to millions of Americans wherever they may live." The artist hopes to find a buyer in Texas who will make the painting available for countless future generations.

– ILLUSTRATED BY MARK LEMON –

TRUE WEST
HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FRONTIER

True West captures the spirit of the West with authenticity, personality and humor by providing a necessary link from our history to our present.

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March 2015 Online and Social Media Content

This 1863 photo shows how Wild Bill Hickok probably looked at the time of the Dave McCanles shoot-out. Hickok was attracted to McCanles' mistress, Sarah Shull, which undoubtedly contributed to the friction between the men. Find this and more historical photography on our "Western Icons" board.

Pinterest.com/TrueWestMag

Go behind the scenes of *True West* with Bob Boze Bell as he seeks the best severed heads (search for "January 19, 2015")

Blog.TrueWestMagazine.com

Join the Conversation

"I love our history in our country. I have read about Chief Iron Tail and several others who have made up the Lakota Nation. We live about 45 miles from the national monuments; Crazy Horse is going to be a great monument when it's complete."

-Kelly Alexander of Upton, Wyoming

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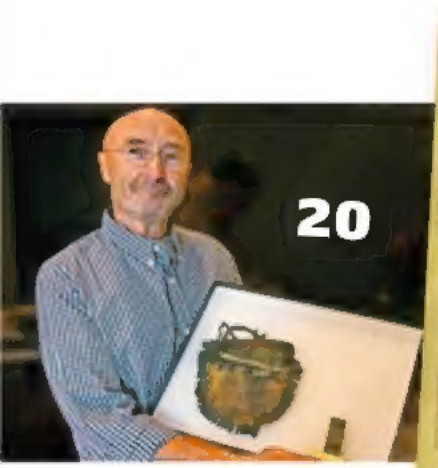

20 "IT'S MY OBSESSION"

International rocker Phil Collins just gave a historic Texas shrine a rock star gift; find out why he feels so connected to the Alamo and see some of his artifacts, including one that chills him to his bones!

—By Jana Bommersbach

28 THE SEVERED HEADS CAMPAIGN

Brutal, but true, a little-known account of the ferocious Apache Wars will shock you—heads, literally, rolled.

—By Paul Andrew Hutton

34 THE MOONSHINER WHO GOT AWAY WITH MURDER

John Wesley Hardin would have been jealous of this slap on the wrist; find out how one mountaineer moonshiner escaped the hangman's noose.

—By Norman W. Brown

38 BUFFALO BILL'S DEADLY ACTS

Before he became the world's most famous showman, Buffalo Bill Cody hit the stage as an actor...and all sorts of deadly acts followed, including one in which he almost killed a kid!

—By Sandra K. Sagala

70 17 PLACES TO HANG YOUR HAT IN THE WEST

Discover first-class Old West experiences at desert retreats, guest ranches, heritage hotels, historic inns and mountain lodges.

—By Stuart Rosebrook

Watch our videos!

Scanning your mobile device over any of the QR codes in this magazine to instantly stream original *True West* videos or be transported to our websites.

Cover design by Dan Harshberger

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FRANK & JESSE (NOT)

Time-Life's 27-volume *The Old West* series has been a popular reference tool for historians ever since its publication in 1965. But it is not without its mistakes. In Phil Spangenberger's November 2014 article, "Six-Gun Safety," we should have clarified his caption that the book claimed the above photo was of Frank and Jesse James. Most James brothers historians today disagree that this is a photo of the outlaw brothers.

RANDOM EXCERPT OF A LETTER WE WON'T BE RUNNING

". . . there is more to the 'True West' than Wyatt Earp, Billy the Kid, 'soiled doves' and 'Gilded Age greed.'"

BAIRD'S STAR?

I saw your mention [September 2014] of the "six-pointed star badge of Texas Ranger Phillip Cuney Baird, who was elected sheriff of Mason County in 1888 and served through 1896," which sold at Heritage. This was a fake. Heritage recently contacted me about 10 more fake badges at a later auction, in November, and they pulled them all before the auction. I understand they are "recalling" a group of fake badges they sold this summer also. I mention this because a lot of foolish collectors, desperate to own anything from a Western lawman, are buying up fake badges.

John Boessenecker
San Francisco, California

Heritage Auctions responds: *Our policy at Heritage Auctions regarding material that is discovered to not be original is straightforward: we remove the lots from the auction immediately and return them to the consignor. In the rare event when something is determined after a purchase to be inauthentic, Heritage offers an immediate full refund, no questions asked. Such was the case with the badges in question.*

Up Which Creek?

I was truly amazed to see John Christopher Fine's article on Potato Creek Johnny and his extraordinary gold nugget in your November issue. This story wasn't new to me. I heard it by my grandfather's knee when I was a child visiting him in Spearfish, South Dakota.

Grandpa Earl C. Schultz was the superintendent of the mine and mill in Tinton and may have been the first person to see Johnny's nugget. Johnny supposedly found it at his cabin and mining claim on Potato Creek, alongside what is now Forest Road 222. A few years ago, I tried to find some trace of the cabin, but could not.

Fine also discussed the 1879 "Doc" Wing nugget allegedly found in Bear Creek. This could have been so. Bear Creek had a reputation for big nuggets. According to local lore, in the early days of settlement, a group of black miners worked Bear Creek and struck it rich. An Army unit had to escort them out of the area. Interestingly, people in modern times have worked the area with metal detectors and found Army artifacts.

While Fine wrote a fine article, he does need to review his Black Hills geography. Potato Creek is not "in Spearfish Canyon." The creek is a tributary of Beaver Creek and flows out of the hills in a northerly direction. Spearfish Canyon is about five miles east.

Harold Schultz
Riverton, Wyoming

QUADRUPLETS?

After seeing the *Battle of Adobe Walls* oil in our November 2014 issue, Eldon E. Dysinger, of Farmington Hills, Michigan, pointed out that artist Nick Eggenhofer had painted four soldiers with identical faces and expressions (see detail at right), making them appear as if they were quadruplets.

Bleeding Ink: Our production crew apologizes for the text that was accidentally cut off during layout of our January 2015 issue. For our reader's choice "Best of the West" winners of 2015, the location for "Best Cowboy Music Gathering," Spirit of the West Cowboy Gathering, is Ellensburg, Washington; for "Best Historical Cemetery of the Old West," the location for Boot Hill Cemetery is Dodge City, Kansas.

Free for All

Mickey Free keeps coming back, and that's just partly why we love him.

Mickey Free will not die.

We have been wrestling with his gnarled visage for at least a decade here at *True West*. Every time we think we are through with him, he comes right back.

In 2004, University of New Mexico Distinguished Professor Paul Andrew Hutton and I got the cockamamie idea to write a graphic novel on the one-eyed *cautivo* who started the longest war in the history of the United States (the Apache campaign lasted 25 years by our count).

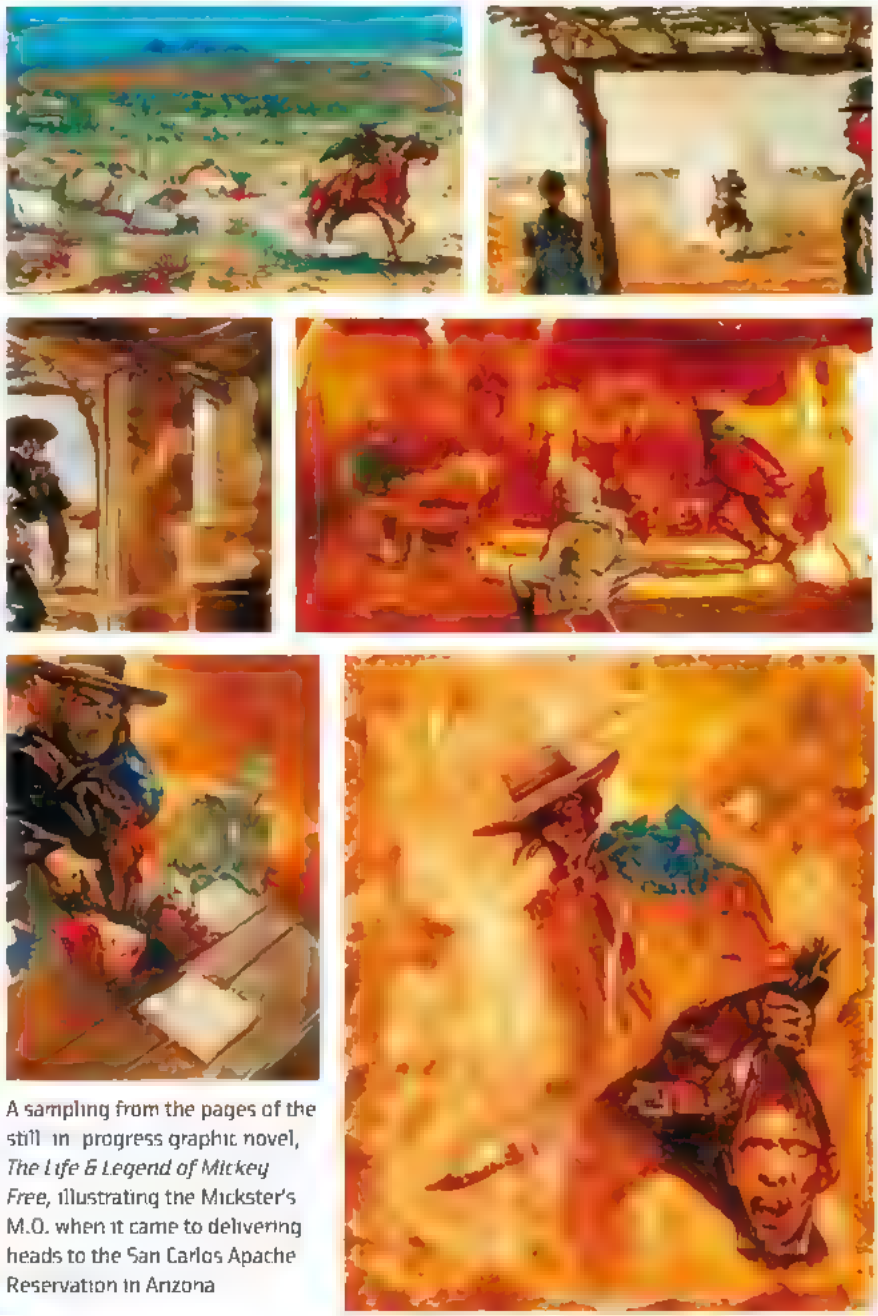
We ensconced ourselves in a studio in far off Bisbee, Arizona, where we slaved over the story for days on end. I created mountains of sketches and embarked on hour after hour of storyboarding. Then I had a heart attack, and, well, life intervened.

After our initial effort to produce a graphic novel stalled, we created a 20-page abridged version that was published in this magazine in the Nov./Dec. 2008 issue. Then Hutton went crazy and wrote a 240,000-word tome that has since, of course, been trimmed considerably. Tentatively titled *The Lords of Apacheria*, the book will be published by Crown in New York City.

While conducting his usual stellar research for this project, Hutton dug deeper into the Severed Heads Campaign. Although this coverage didn't make it into the book, he has graciously shared the stunning chapter with us (p. 28).

While other writers and scholars have dealt with this campaign—Thrapp, Sweeney, Radbourne, Utley to mention a few—none realized its dramatic potential or saw it as a pivotal and brutal turning point of the Apache Wars.

Yes, Mickey Free keeps coming back, and I have a hunch he always will.



A sampling from the pages of the still-in-progress graphic novel, *The Life & Legend of Mickey Free*, illustrating the Mickster's M.O. when it came to delivering heads to the San Carlos Apache Reservation in Arizona.

For a behind-the-scenes look at running this magazine, check out BBB's daily blog at TWMag.com.

Quotes

"I was born too mean to hold onto a basketball scholarship; too tall to be a fighter pilot; too dumb to be a doctor and too damn late to be a cowboy."

-- Legendary Texas Ranger Joaquin Jackson, on how he ended up being a lawman

"Our history is an aggregate of last moments."

American author Thomas Pynchon

"Success is how high you bounce when you hit bottom."

U.S. Army Gen. George S. Patton

"The philosophies of one age have become the absurdities of the next, and the foolishness of yesterday has become the wisdom of tomorrow."

Sir William Osler, Canadian physician and educator

"But History was against me. History is right, objectively speaking. I'm just a historical dead end. I hope at least that my fate will serve as an example to you all and to posterity."

- Romanian playwright Eugéne Ionesco

Bizarro BY DAN PIRARO

Got anything bigger? I got 200 head of cattle that gotta be in Kansas City by tomorrow.
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Dan Piraro
6-28-00
BIZARRO COMICS.COM

"A great truth is a truth whose opposite is also a truth."

German author Thomas Mann

"Sweet Jesus."

Mary, Queen of Scot's last words uttered between the first and second strokes of her executioner's poorly aimed axe

Old Vaquero Saying

"The only truly happy people are children and the creative minority."

A Rock Star Gift

Phil Collins brings his vast Alamo collection home to Texas's most famous historic site.

Phil Collins (center), who first gained fame as the lead vocalist and drummer for the rock group Genesis, has a Texas-sized heart; he donated his vast Alamo collection to the state's most treasured historic site

COURTESY TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

The day is a rare one indeed when a 64-year-old Brit who lives in Switzerland emerges as a major Old West Savior for one of America's most cherished historical events.

Retired musician Phil Collins has generously donated his $15 million collection of Alamo artifacts to the preserved Texas shrine, the Alamo, in downtown San Antonio.

"We have those camera shutter moments in our lives and mine is very strong—I was a boy about five, in short trousers, in the family living room in London, watching the new Disney series on Fess Parker as Davy Crockett," says Collins, thinking back to the 1950s. "The Alamo part didn't come until the end, but I found myself really interested. I thought, 'What a thing to do.' I saw people doing the right thing, despite knowing they probably would never return. It grabbed me and never really went away."

When Collins became one of the world's most successful musicians—one of only three to sell 100 million albums worldwide, along with Paul McCartney and Michael Jackson—those memories of bravery led to a passion that is now considered the world's largest private Alamo collection.

Last year, he stunned everyone by announcing he was donating the entire collection—200-plus items—to the Alamo. (Turn to p. 20 to view some of the artifacts.)

"We are absolutely overjoyed," says Melinda Tomerlin of the Alamo. "Some of the items actually belonged to defenders, and there are a lot of documents we're excited to get our hands on. It's phenomenal."

But anyone who has ever visited the tiny Alamo—the remains of where approximately 250 Texians and their sympathizers held off about 2,000 Mexican troops for 13 days from February 23 to March 6, 1836—will instantly see the problem: The Alamo is already a jam-packed historic site that hardly has space for the things it already owns. Where will it put another vast collection?

Collins was in San Antonio last October at a gala fundraiser to begin the fund to build a new building that will eventually house his collection.

"I don't want this to happen after I die, so our agreement is there will be a new building built in five to eight years," Collins says. Former Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson, who finalized the deal, says the agency will seek both public and private donations to make this a reality.

Admitting he spent most of his musical earnings on this collection, Collins says, "I don't buy cars, I don't buy houses. I treat my family to a nice holiday every year, but that's about it. Collecting old bits of metal and old bits of paper are my vice."

His collection contains some of the most precious items from the siege, including weapons owned by Crockett, along with his leather shot pouch and a pair of powder horns, and Jim Bowie's famous knife. His collection was featured in a book Collins wrote, published in 2012, *The Alamo and Beyond. A Collector's Journey*. You can purchase a signed limited edition copy from State House Press.

> "I saw people doing the right thing, despite knowing they probably would never return."

Help the rock star share his gift with the public and become an Old West Savior too! Visit *TheAlamo.org* to contribute funds to build a new home for this incredible collection.

Arizona's Journalist of the Year, **Jana Bommersbach** has won an Emmy and two Lifetime Achievement Awards. She also cowrote and appeared on the Emmy-winning *Outrageous Arizona* and has written two true crime books, a children's book and the historical novel, *Cattle Kate*.

BY MARK BOARDMAN

Dark Starr

One black day, a century ago, Henry Starr and his gang tried to pull a fast one on an Oklahoma town.

Looking more like a banker than a bank robber, Henry Starr was photographed in late July 1915 during his trial for the gang's botched holdups in Stroud, Oklahoma. Sentenced to 25 years, Starr served only four.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

One hundred years ago this month, Henry Starr set out to make history. The career outlaw wanted to rob two banks at once, succeeding where the Dalton Gang had failed in 1892.

His luck seemed good; in the previous six months, he had pulled at least 14 bank jobs, netting more than $26,000. But he should have learned from the Daltons.

In mid-March, Starr and six pals camped outside Stroud, Oklahoma, about 60 miles northeast of Oklahoma City. When the men cased the town, law officers thought they were just some hunters.

The gang was on the hunt—for cash. On mid-morning of Saturday, March 27, the not-so magnificent seven rode into Stroud. One stayed with the horses, tied up at the local stockyards, while the rest walked toward the banks. Nobody took notice. The well-dressed men didn't wear masks or flash guns.

Lewis Estes and two cohorts entered the First National Bank, while Starr led two outlaws to the Stroud National Bank about a block farther on. The Estes outfit smoothly collected more than $4,000, but Starr fell for a ruse—one that had also frustrated the Daltons during their dual bank robbery in Coffeyville, Kansas.

The bankers convinced Starr that the vault was on a time lock and wouldn't open until the close of business. They were lying, but Starr didn't want to waste time. He and his crew scooped up about $1,750 from the cash drawer, took three people hostage and headed toward the horses.

> Starr fell for a ruse—one that had also frustrated the Daltons.

They met up with Estes and company—and their seven hostages—outside the First National Bank. The six outlaws used the 10 civilians as shields.

Word of the robberies had spread throughout Stroud, and a number of men began firing over the heads of the 16. The hostages scattered, and the outlaws made a run for the horses, dodging bullets and snapping off shots as they went.

From a grocery, the owner's son, 20-year-old Paul Curry, grabbed a sawed-off rifle used to kill hogs and opened up. One shot hit Starr in the upper left thigh, shattering the bone and leaving him unable to move. Curry then turned the rifle on Estes; the bullet passed through the outlaw's neck and into his lung. Estes got to his horse and rode out of town, but he collapsed a couple of miles later. A posse brought him back to Stroud. Three other gang members were also arrested.

Both Estes and Starr pleaded guilty to the robberies. Estes got five years. The judge sentenced Starr to 25 years, based on his criminal career stretching back at least 24 years. But some kind-hearted bureaucrats believed Starr was reformed after just four years in prison and set him free.

Starr tried to capitalize on his Stroud escapade. In 1919, he put together a film based on the incident, called *A Debtor to the Law*, a crime-does-not-pay morality tale. Strangely, his partners in the venture were just as crooked as the bandit, stealing an estimated $15,000 from Starr.

He only knew one way to recoup the cash. Yet when he tried to stick up a bank in Harrison, Arkansas, in February 1921, he was mortally wounded.

Starr died at the age of 47, not having learned much from the Dalton debacle... or even from his own movie.

BY MEGHAN SAAR

Endless Rides

Wilderness wanderers riding pioneer trails found an easy road at end-of-the-year artwork auctions.

Trailing Homeward by Walter Ufer; Christie's New York, November 19, 2014, $720,000

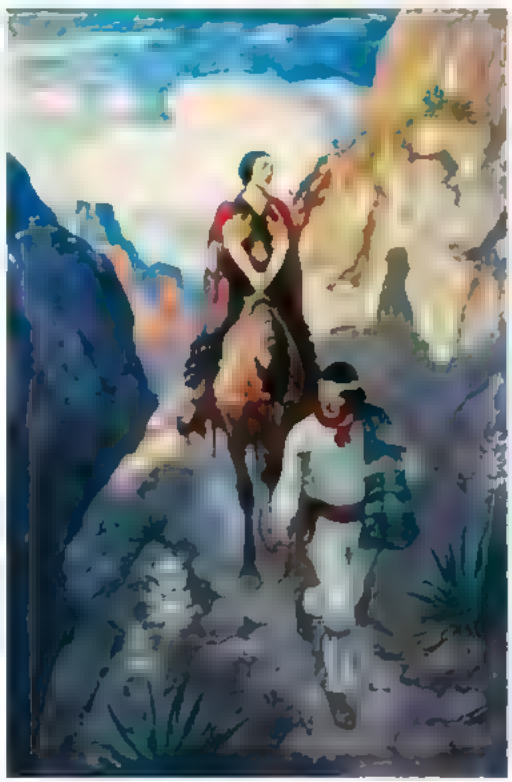
When Warren A. Ferris set off in the employ of the American Fur Company to explore the Rocky Mountains in 1830, he was accompanied by "some thirty men, mostly Canadians," he wrote in his diary.

"Each has some plausible excuse for joining, and the aggregate of disinterestedness would delight the most ghostly saint in the Roman calendar," he wrote. "Engage for money! no, not they; health, and the strong desire of seeing strange lands, of beholding nature in the savage grandeur of her primeval state,—these are the only arguments that could have persuaded such independent and high-minded young fellows to adventure with the American Fur Company in a trip to the mountain wilds of the great west. But they are active, vigorous, resolute, daring, and such are the kind of men the service requires."

In that American frontier wilderness, such courageous wanderers never knew what they were going to encounter. Whether they were setting out on famous trails like the Oregon Trail or blazing new pathways, life was an adventure on those meandering routes that spelled out hope and a better life for some and disaster and death for others.

The tales left behind by these hardy emigrants have inspired countless artworks, leaving behind endless rides for us to enjoy and appreciate. Some of the best art auction houses in the country ended the year with a bang with their sales of these awe-inspiring artworks. The top-bidding paintings are shared here.

"...they are active, vigorous, resolute, daring, and such are the kind of men the service requires."



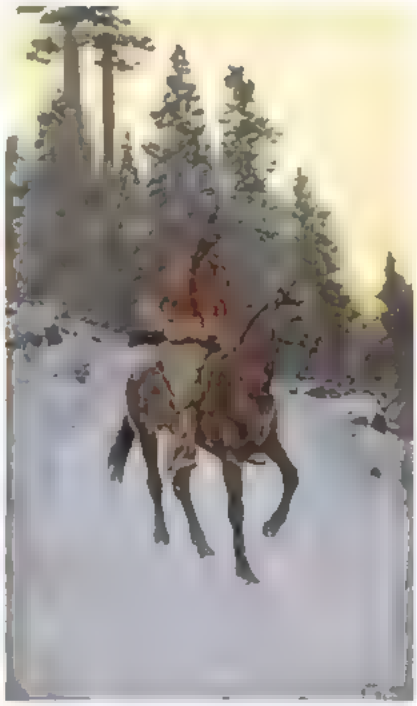
Ramona (Ramona and Alessandro on the Narrow Trail) by N.C. Wyeth; Sotheby's New York, November 20, 2014, $550,000

Notable Western Art Lots Included

(All images courtesy auction cited)

Friend or Foe? by Gerard Curtis Delano, Christie's New York, $350,000

Pack Horses on a Trail by Carl Rungius, Santa Fe Art Auction, December 6, 2014, $285,000.



On the Trail by Henry Farny, Christie's New York, $220,000

Going in, the Bear Hunters by William Herbert Dunton; Christie's New York, $180,000.

Dispatch Bearers by Charles Schreyvogel; Christie's New York, $200,000.

The Lone Trail by Maynard Dixon; Bonhams California, November 24, 2014, $150,000

First Snow on Taos Mountain by Oscar Edmund Berninghaus, Altermann, December 6–7, 2014, $90,000

UPCOMING AUCTIONS

March 11, 2015
Inaugural Firearms Auction
Cowan's & Little John's
(Cincinnati, OH)
Cowans.com • 513 871 1670

March 14, 2015
Texana Grand Format
Heritage Auctions (Dallas, TX)
HA.com • 800 872 6467

March 15–17, 2015
Historic Firearms
James D. Julia (Fairfield, ME)
JamesDJulia.com • 800 565 9298

March 21, 2015
Historical & Contemporary Western Art
The Russell (Great Falls, MT)
CMRussell.org • 406 727 8787

John Hart portrayed the Lone Ranger on ABC during the 1952 and 1953 seasons, and he made appearances in that role for other TV shows. In this 1950s studio still, he stands with his trusty steed, Silver.

– COURTESY ABC

The Other Lone Ranger's Colt

The Cody Firearms Museum is proudly displaying John Hart's Peacemaker.

"Who was that Masked Man?"

That was the question that ended each episode of ABC's *The Lone Ranger*, one of the best-liked television series of the 1950s.

From 1949 to 1957, Clayton Moore portrayed the Lone Ranger, except for 1952 and 1953, when actor John Hart replaced Moore as the masked frontier lawman. Although Hart portrayed the Lone Ranger for only one season, he went on to make occasional appearances in that role in other TV shows. He enjoyed being known as the "other" Lone Ranger for more than 50 years, until his passing in 2009.

> "I had big parts in lousy movies and lousy parts in big movies... but it sure was fun."

One of Hart's personal firearms—a nickel plated and engraved 1873 Colt Single Action Army revolver—is now owned by a museum in Cody, Wyoming. The Cody Firearms Museum at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West acquired the gun at James D. Julia's auction in October 2013.

The .45 caliber Colt's serial number, 32395SA, reveals the six-gun was manufactured in 1960. Ben Shostle, of Muncie, Indiana, later engraved the gun in an exquisite ornamental style. Fitted with one-piece ivory stocks, with a buffalo skull carved into one side, this handsome revolver is housed in its original velvet-lined Colt display case.

The Lone Ranger (Clayton Moore) is held at gunpoint by a cavalry sergeant (John Hart) in the 1950's episode, "Rifles and Renegades." Two years later, during ABC's salary dispute with Moore, Hart would wear the mask for 52 episodes.

COURTESY ABC

During John Hart's tenure as the Lone Ranger, Jay Silverheels (at left) continued on in his role as Tonto.

COURTESY ABC

Here, Hart looks both dapper, yet ready for trouble in his frontier era suit as he brandishes a Colt Peacemaker. Like many silver screen heroes of the Go den Age of Hollywood, Hart worked as a cowboy while growing up—he was the real deal!

THE WEST ARCHIVES

Hart's engraved, nickel plated, 4¾ inch barreled Colt Single Action Army is one of the most beautiful Second Generation Colt Peacemakers ever seen by the author. Check out the elegant ornamental style hand engraving and the buffalo skull motif on the one piece ivory stocks.

COURTESY CODY FIREARMS MUSEUM, CODY, WYOMING

The six-gun sold with a photograph of Hart in his Lone Ranger outfit, standing with his white steed, Silver (see p. 16). The Colt also came with *Cowboys in the Kitchen*, a cookbook by Hart that is less a recipe collection and more a set of anecdotes from the actor's Hollywood days.

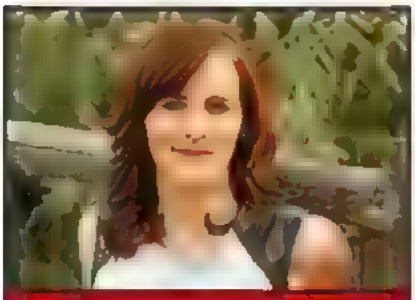
A WWII veteran, the handsome actor spent decades in Hollywood, playing character roles in numerous movies, such as Cecil B. DeMille's 1938 epic *The Buccaneer*, his 1940 classic *North West Mounted Police* and, in the 1960s, even a couple of Elvis' films. Besides his stint as TV's Lone Ranger, Hart added credits to his small screen career that included the lead in the 1957 U.K. series *Hawkeye and the Last of the Mohicans* and guest appearances on *Rawhide*, *Perry Mason*, *I Love Lucy*, *Leave it to Beaver* and *Happy Days*, for which he reprised his role as the masked man in one 1982 episode.

Hart was an easygoing guy who worked as a cowboy while growing up, his longtime friend Mick LaFever says. Hart later raced cars and motorcycles, flew airplanes, was an honorary life member of the Former Texas Rangers Association, loved firearms and Cowboy Action Shooting, and was an all-around man's man. Hart used to joke that he'd "had big parts in lousy movies and lousy parts in big movies, but it sure was fun."

We don't know if Hart ever used this Colt in any of his films; for now, the Colt Firearms Museum is positioning the gun as one owned by the actor. The collection also showcases other firearms from filmdom, including a Colt Single Action Army from the 1955-75 CBS series *Gunsmoke*, one of Paladin's Peacemakers from the 1957-63 CBS series *Have Gun-Will Travel*, the Winchester Model '71 used by exhibition shooter Herb Parsons in the making of the 1950 movie *Winchester '73*, starring James Stewart, and a customized Colt Bisley owned by WWII hero-turned-actor Audie Murphy.

For a look at some interesting firearms with colorful pedigrees, check out the Cody Firearms Museum's collection in Cody, Wyoming. Sure as shootin', you will be glad you did.

Phil Spangenberger has written for *Guns & Ammo* appears on the History Channel and other documentary networks, produces Wild West shows, is a Hollywood gun coach and character actor and is *True West's* Firearms Editor



FIRST FEMALE FIREARMS CURATOR

The Cody Firearms Museum, in Cody, Wyoming, has named Ashley Hlebinsky (above) associate curator, making her the first female firearms curator in the country!

She is armed with a B.A. and M.A. in American History and Museum Studies from the University of Delaware. She also served a curatorial internship with the Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall & Museum in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and spent the last six years gaining hands-on experience through research fellowships and museum employment focused around the study of firearms; she divided her work between the Cody museum and the National Firearms Collection of the National Museum of American History at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

We're looking forward to seeing which firearm treasures she will unveil to the public.

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BY JANA BOMMERSBACH

"It's My Obsession"

FOR INTERNATIONAL ROCKER PHIL COLLINS, THE ALAMO IS PERSONAL.

Legendary rock musician Phil Collins doesn't exactly believe in psychics, but he has to admit, he feels eerie about this: A clairvoyant once told him he was the reincarnation of John W. Smith—an Alamo courier who went on to become the first mayor of San Antonio. She didn't know that the very first item in his vast Alamo collection was an 1836 receipt for Smith's new saddle just weeks after the Alamo siege.

"My third wife bought it for me and had it framed for a present in 1994," Collins says. "And then there I was, at a party in San Antonio years later, and a clairvoyant claimed that I was Smith in a former life. There's no pictures of him. I don't want to go weird. I'm just fascinated by it."

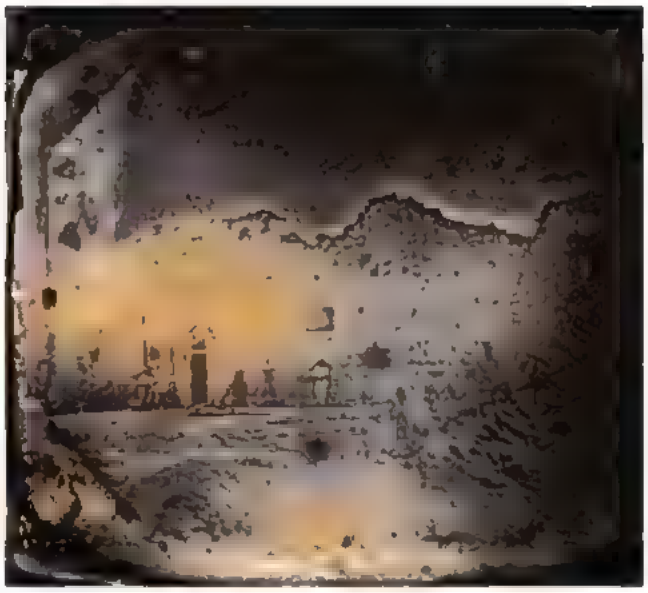
That isn't the only thing that spooks this retired British musician who has just donated more than 200 Alamo items—worth some $15 million—to the Alamo in downtown San Antonio, Texas.

The fascination with the pivotal battle in the Texas Revolution began in the 1950s, when Collins was growing up in London and watched the 1954-55 Disney miniseries on Davy Crockett, played by Fess Parker.

"I used to go out in the garden and play the Alamo," he says. "I couldn't get any music to go with the battle, so I played the 'William Tell Overture.' I'd enact the battle with my rubber and plastic soldiers, and afterwards, I'd burn the soldiers in a bonfire. I didn't know it then, but that's what happened in real life—the bodies were burned on funeral pyres."

The former lead singer and drummer of Genesis, Phil Collins holds the Bowie knife (middle), crudely engraved with "Jim Bowie," from the Jesse Robinson Collection. Robinson, who fought with Bowie at the Battle of Concepción and the Siege of Béxar, reportedly got it from Bowie (far right) himself.

COLLINS PHOTO COURTESY TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE. BOWIE PRINT COURTESY JOE MOSSO; BOWIE KNIFE PHOTO COURTESY STATE HOUSE PRESS, TFNEC.COM



The earliest known photograph of the Alamo, this daguerreotype was taken before 1850, roughly 100 years before Phil Collins first fell in love with the Alamo. Historians estimate approximately 2,300 Mexican soldados attacked the mission during the 13-day siege in 1836 that killed, almost to the man, the roughly 250 Texian defenders.

COURTESY DOLPH BRISCOE CENTER FOR AMERICAN HISTORY UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Collins started reading whatever he could find about the 13-day siege in 1836 that killed roughly 250 Texian defenders (almost to a man) who fought approximately 2,300 Mexican soldiers under the command of Gen. Antonio López de Santa Anna.

He was getting rich about the time he saw his first memorabilia item tied to the battle and its participants—a David Crockett letter in a Georgetown shop he spied while shopping with his first wife in Washington D.C. "But they wanted $60,000 for it, and it was too expensive," he says, noting his mother taught him to be more frugal than that.

Several years later, his third wife gave him the Smith receipt that would begin the world's largest private collection of Alamo artifacts. The collection grew so large that he created a state-of-the-art museum inside his home in Switzerland.

That Smith receipt is still one of his favorite items. But he lists the "jewel in the crown" as the David Crockett musket, with two powder flasks, musket balls and a musket pouch he bought from the José Enrique de la Peña family of Mexico. Their ancestor was a colonel in the Mexican army whose diary, published in 1955, created an outrage when he wrote that some had surrendered in the end, including Crockett. American historians—and movies and books—insist Crockett was killed fighting to the end. But the dueling stories make the musket a controversial item and a special piece of Collins' collection.

"I've bought a lot of my collection from Mexico," he says, sharing how Mexican soldiers who survived the Battle of the Alamo took home the "spoils of war," from boots to weapons.

Collins also helped dig for Alamo artifacts beneath the History Shop at 713 E. Houston Street, opposite the north wall of the Alamo compound. Jim Guimarin, who owns the antique map, weapon and book shop, showcases Mark Lemon's model of the Alamo created for his book, *The Illustrated Alamo 1836*. When the author had to sell it because he needed the garage back, Collins bought it so it could be temporarily stored at the History Shop. The hope is that the model will make its way to the Alamo too.

"The real story of the Alamo is less black and white than the movies present it," he says. He points out that this land was part of Mexico at the time, and Santa Anna had invited settlers to till the land. The first settlers did, following Mexican law, but then word got out that Mexico was giving away land and that created a surge that led to the demand for independence.

Collins admits his family was conflicted over his generous donation. "My three oldest children are very pleased that the collection is going where it is supposed to go," he says, "but my two little ones, especially the nine year old, were a bit upset I was giving it away. He knows all the characters. I'm keeping some Alamo movie things for him, and a big stone from the Alamo."

While one would think the collection should obviously end up at the Alamo, Collins reveals that it was actually a fluke.

Collins went to San Antonio to visit various museums to see if they wanted his collection. "I'd walk in and say, 'I'm Phil Collins, and I have this Alamo collection.' My only stipulation was that most of it would get displayed," he says. "But that night, I went out to dinner with a friend and a lady I didn't know. She was Kaye Tucker, who works in the Texas General Land Office. She asked me if I'd let the Alamo have it. I'd never have asked, because I knew they didn't have the space. But she said they'd build a new building. Right then and there, I said, 'Yes.'"

Tucker well remembers that night. Her version includes a lot more butterflies in the belly. She recalls being thrilled that she was sitting across from the famous Collins and thinking to herself then, "This is nuts!!"

"I'm sure Phil was wondering what the heck I was doing there to begin with, but just assumed his friend and History Shop partner Jim Guimarin was just being nice and invited me. Phil was very relaxed and enjoying his favorite, cheese enchiladas,

when Jim asks, 'Kaye, do you have something you want to ask Phil?' I was just inhaling a big spoon of soup, and it almost ended up everywhere!

"Phil asked, 'Really, what's that?' So I asked, 'Would you consider giving your collection to the Alamo?' He looked at me, cocked his head slightly to the right and, even though it was only about a three-to-five-second pause, about 1,000 thoughts passed through my head, from 'Are you nuts?' to 'Now, who are you again?' to 'You must be joking' to 'You need to catch a cab back to your office' to 'Let me think about it' to (the desired response) 'Yes, I would love that!'"

He, of course, said yes. Later on, Texas officials told Collins he could be as involved as much as he would like, from delivering the collection to being completely involved. "Completely involve me," he told them, and their agreement notes he will be consulted on how his collection is displayed.

So what does someone obsessed with the Alamo do after he's donated a vast collection to the Alamo?

"I'm still going to collect," Collins admits. "I still find it enjoyable. It's my obsession. I've gotten to know other collectors, and we all have a pleasure in passing things on for other people to enjoy."

He's known all these years that he's not just collecting "treasured heirlooms," but is collecting "real history," he says. That history speaks directly to brave men fighting for what they thought was right, .and left an imprint on an entire nation.

Jana Bommersbach interviewed Phil Collins for this article. His book, *The Alamo and Beyond: A Collector's Journey*, is available as a signed, limited edition from State House Press. Please visit *TFHCC.com* to purchase.

Phil Collins holds a leather hunting pouch (above) that originally belonged to Alamo defender David Crockett. He told *True West* that his most prized Alamo collectibles are this pouch and Crockett's musket (top).

COLLINS PHOTO COURTESY TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE. MUSKET PHOTO COURTESY STATE HOUSE PRESS. *TFHCC.COM*

"I don't want to go weird. I'm just fascinated by it."

This powder horn, which carried blackpowder used for firing rifles from the late 1700s to the mid 1800s, is particularly interesting and valuable because of its pristine condition and the fact that it still has a small piece of glass in the dispensing nozzle

COURTESY TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Collins saved Mark Lemon's scale model of the Alamo from being lost to history. He endorsed it and Lemon's book as "a great pictorial look at what the compound might have looked like in 1836." Visitors to San Antonio can see the model at the History Shop on E. Houston Street. Narration by the rock star helps walk you through the story of the historic battle!

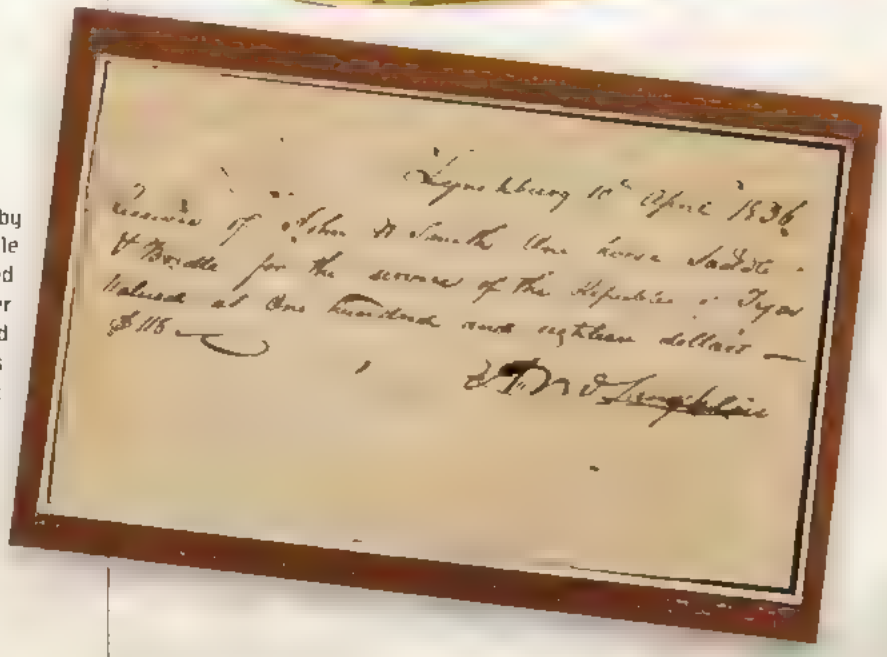
COURTESY PHIL COLLINS

On this Mexican howitzer cannon shell, you can see the hole at the top where soldiers would pour blackpowder and then plug the hole with a piece of wood. The soldiers then lit a fuse on the plug and dropped this into a cannon for firing.

COURTESY TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

This Mexican cavalry soldier's helmet with a tricolor pompon, in the Mexican colors of red, white and green, comes from the Dolores Regiment, 1833–39, which was present at the siege of the Alamo. Once the new museum is built at the Alamo, visitors will be able to compare the real thing to depictions seen in artworks, such as Dave Powell's drawing of a Mexican cavalryman hunting down an Alamo escapee (above).

ILLUSTRATED BY DAVE POWELL



Lynchburg 10th April 1836

Received of John W. Smith One horse Saddle & Bridle for the service of the Republic of Texas valued at One hundred and eighteen dollars —

$118 —

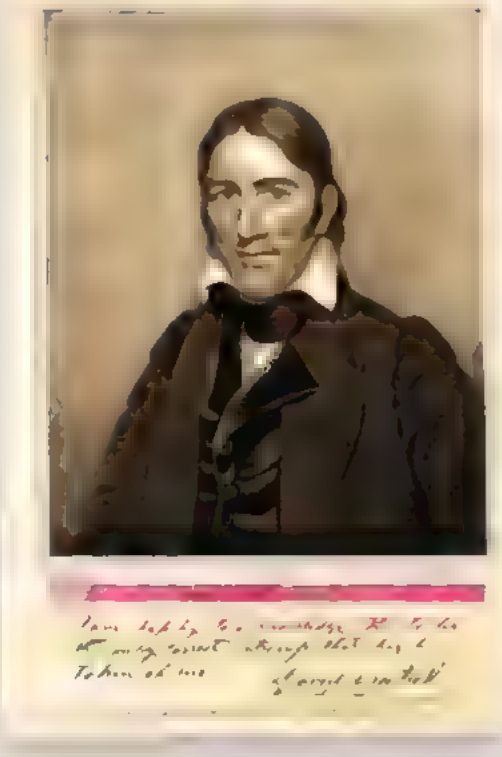
D. W. Humphries

The first Alamo memorabilia collected by Phil Collins is this 1836 receipt for a saddle purchased by John W. Smith, who carried Lt. Col. William Barret Travis's last letter and other messages out of the besieged Alamo. "That just blew me away," Collins reported in his book. "The miles that saddle had been ridden with Alamo messages was quite overwhelming." Travis died in the battle, at the age of 26.

COURTESY TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Phil Collins calls this Sapper's Great Axe his most "chilling" Alamo collectible. Weapons like this one saw service during the Napoleonic wars before finding their way into the Republic of Mexico Army. Mexican Zapadores (sappers) could have used this axe at the Alamo to help them breach the mission's North Wall and advance on the enemy Texians. Who knows if a Mexican soldier used this in the hand to hand, face to face bloodbath that broke down the Texian resistance?

COURTESY STATE HOUSE PRESS, *TFBCC.COM*



Phil Collins isn't the only celebrity obsessed with David Crockett. Hollywood director, writer and producer David Zucker includes a reference to the Alamo defender in all of his movies. He places a picture of Crockett (see the above 1834 print) on a wall in most of them. Zucker even played Crockett (below) in his movie *The Naked Gun 2½*.

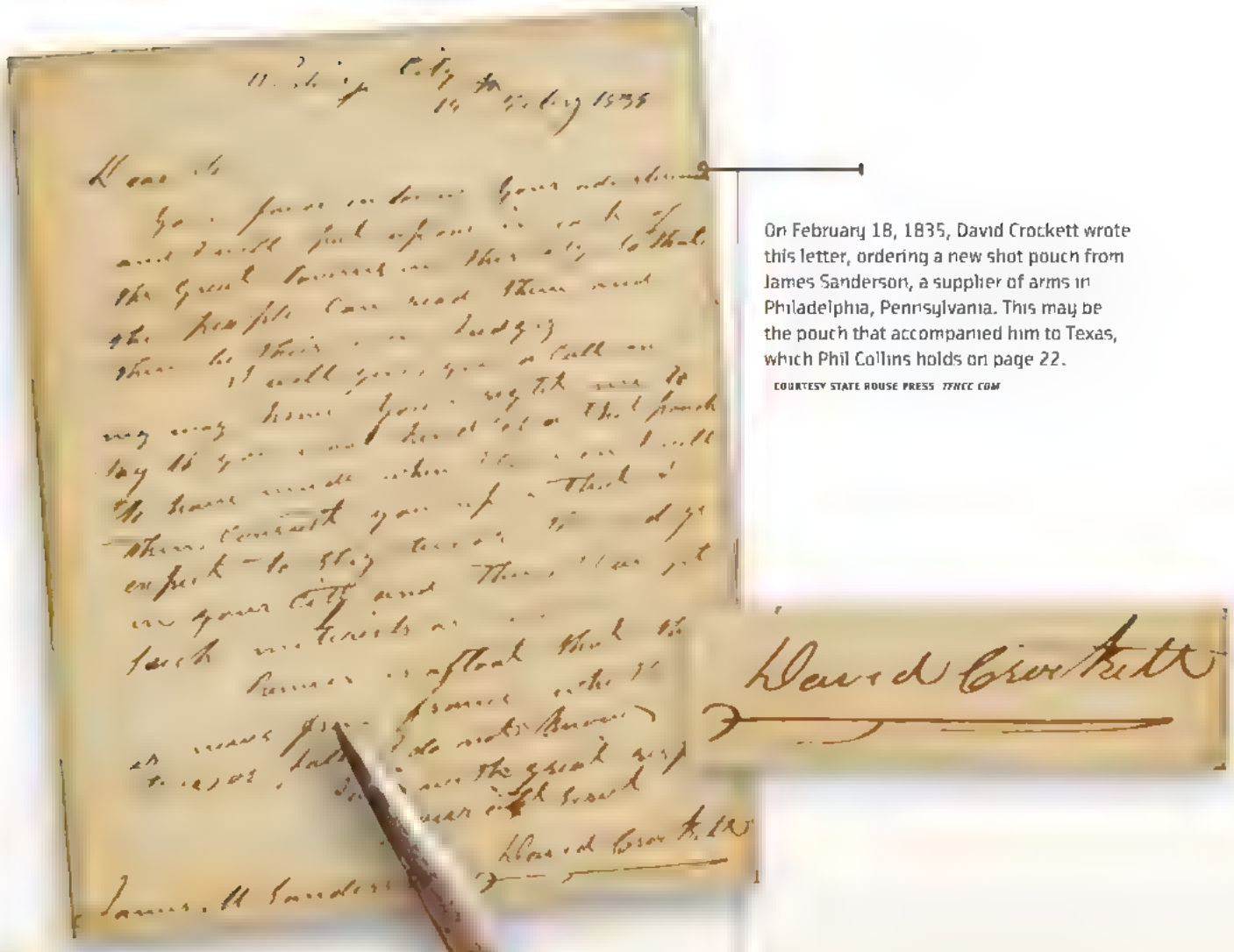
COURTESY DAVID ZUCKER

This photo of the Alamo was taken after the U.S. Army modified the front of the building to include the famous "hump." Because of the Alamo's placement in downtown San Antonio, Texas, the mission has changed with the city. All that is left of the main compound today is the church and part of the long barrack (or convento). This past October, the Texas General Land Office spent nearly half a million dollars to give the 1700s long barrack a new roof.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

John Wayne was another celebrity fascinated by the Battle of the Alamo. By 1954, the actor had decided to make a movie about it. But he feuded with Republic about the picture. Under his own production company, Batjac, and along with United Artists, Wayne finished the movie. He starred in the 1960 box office hit as Davy Crockett.

COURTESY UNITED ARTISTS



On February 18, 1835, David Crockett wrote this letter, ordering a new shot pouch from James Sanderson, a supplier of arms in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This may be the pouch that accompanied him to Texas, which Phil Collins holds on page 22.

COURTESY STATE HOUSE PRESS *TFHCC.COM*

Believed to have been owned by James Bowie, this folding boot knife may look like a penknife, but it measures close to 20 inches in length when fully opened. The nine-inch-long stiletto blade would have been a terrifying weapon, as it could deliver a fatal jab. Although the handle features a decorative boot, this knife was probably not put on display, but concealed in the inner breast coat pocket.

COURTESY STATE HOUSE PRESS *TFHCC.COM*

BRUTAL, BUT TRUE, THE LITTLE-KNOWN ACCOUNT OF THE U.S. ARMY PAYING FOR BEHEADINGS DURING THE FEROCIOUS APACHE WARS.

The Severed Heads Campaign

BY PAUL ANDREW HUTTON

Mickey Free rode into Camp Apache on April 27, 1874, with the bloody severed head of the renegade warrior Pedro hanging from his saddle

The delivery of the head by the enigmatic scout to Capt. George Randall marked the beginning of the end of one of the most remarkable, and brutal, military campaigns in American history

Eating His Words

Almost exactly one year before, on April 9, 1873, Arizona commander George Crook had declared an end to his first Apache campaign, which press and politicians alike had proclaimed as both brilliant and decisive. Crook congratulated his troops, who he said had "outwitted and beaten the wiliest of foes . and finally closed an Indian war that has been waged since the days of Cortez."

President U S. Grant responded by promoting Crook up two grades to the rank of brigadier general as the Arizona press hailed this "Napoleon of successful Indian fighters."

Crook soon had his hands full with those he casually declared "my Indians." The new reservation created by presidential envoy Vincent Colyer at San Carlos was an extension of the White Mountain reservation headquartered at Camp Apache, and it had quickly turned into an administrative nightmare

Interim agent Dr R.A. Wilbur, the former agent for the Tohono O'odham, had practiced chicanery for so long that fraud was his normal business conduct. His constant cheating of the Indians and the government in ration issues was bad enough, but he also meddled in volatile Apache politics at San Carlos in hopes of securing the agent position.

Permanent agent Charles Larrabee arrived in March 1873 The former Union officer learned that rumors spread by Wilbur about him had incited Chunz, Chan-deisi and Cochinay to plan to kill Larrabee. He had Aravaipa leaders Eskiminzin and Capitán Chiquito's support, but Larrabee was determined to win over the recalcitrants by giving in to their demands for increased rations.

The first to carry out Gen. George Crook's grisly order, Mickey Free brought in the head of Pedro at San Carlos

ALL ILLUSTRATIONS BY BOB BOZE BELL

Major William Brown and a detachment of the 5th Cavalry arrived to back up the new agent, but Larrabee dismissed them. The Apaches feared troops who camped near them.

Scout Archie McIntosh, sensing serious trouble, urged Brown to stay, but the major did not wish to undercut civilian control at the agency. He did, however, leave Lt. Jacob Almy with 5th Cavalry troops to provide some security. This scared Eskiminzin and Capitán Chiquito into moving their people from the agency to the nearby mountains. They knew that trouble was brewing.

Bloodshed at San Carlos

On May 27, ration day at the agency, more than 1,000 Apaches gathered around Larrabee's crude storehouse. Nearly half of the men were armed. After Chan-deisi loudly threatened the new agent, interpreter Merejildo Grijalva and a handful of troopers went in search of him. Almy rushed to the scene to join in the search. A shot rang out amongst the milling crowd, and Almy staggered toward Grijalva.

"Oh, my God!" Almy cried, as he clutched his bloody side. Another shot rang out, and the lieutenant's skull exploded.

The soldiers opened fire, but the Apaches had already scattered. A shaken Larrabee promptly resigned his position and turned San Carlos over to the Army.

The laurels won by Crook in his celebrated triumph over the Apaches were rapidly wilting. Crook ordered Brown to take over as a temporary agent, but not to accept Indian surrender until the heads of Chunz, Cochinay and Chan-deisi were delivered. Crook meant what he said—he wanted their actual heads for public display at San Carlos.

Standoff at San Carlos

At Camp Verde, affairs were also about to spin out of control.

Delshay had remained troublesome ever since the Army forced him to settle on the reservation. He kept his Tonto Apache and Yavapai friends and relatives in a constant state of agitation.

Scout Mickey Free presented the first head, of Pedro, to Capt. George Randall on April 27, 1874.

Camp Verde had a remarkable leader in Walter Schuyler. Within weeks, the lieutenant and scout Al Sieber had overseen the planting of nearly 60 acres of land with melons and vegetables favored by the Indians, as well as many more acres prepared for corn and barley. They also constructed a water wheel and dug an irrigation ditch.

Even as this good work progressed, rumors swirled that the "Indian Ring," headquartered in Tucson, had lobbied Congress to have all the Camp Verde Indians moved to San Carlos. The motive being that Tucson merchants were issued nearly all the federal contracts for San Carlos. The news flamed the smoldering discontent of Delshay and his followers.

Another issue that upset the Indians was Crooks's order that all must carry a number, on tags distinctly shaped to designate the various bands. Any Indian found off the reservation had to produce his tag and a written pass that corresponded to the tag number. Many warriors, contemptuous of this dehumanizing system, exchanged their tags as currency in games of chance.

With ominous news from San Carlos, Schuyler realized he faced similar problems. He and Sieber were fighting a two-front war—one with the Apaches and the other with the federal Indian Bureau.

John Clum, in buckskin garb given to him by one of his Apache policemen, poses with Diablo (at left) and Eskiminzin (at right) at San Carlos in 1875. The summer before, when he had first arrived at the agency to permanently replace Agent Charles Larrabee, Clum was greeted by severed heads on the parade ground.

COURTESY COWAN'S AUCTIONS. DECEMBER 10, 2010

George Crook may have thought he finally beat the Apaches in 1874, but Geronimo's guerilla war brought the commander back to Arizona in 1882. Four years later, he was relieved of his command. Then his long-time rival, Gen. Nelson Miles, got the credit for ending the Apache Wars when he exiled Geronimo and his band.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

Schuyler fretted over Delshay and wrote Crook, requesting permission to arrest him. Crook approved, but warned the young lieutenant not to "make the arrest unless you are sure of success, as a failure will lead to bad consequences."

Crook's anxiety was well placed, for Delshay was plotting to kill Schuyler, an act that would gain him notoriety, just like Chunz, Chan-deisi and Cochinay had won by killing Almy at San Carlos.

To arrest Delshay, Schuyler ordered his rancheria to Camp Verde for a census count. But Delshay's spy, Tonto interpreter Antone, secretly unloaded Schuyler's rifle just before the parley.

When the brash lieutenant informed Delshay that he was under arrest, the chief laughed. Through Antone, the chief said that he was no man's prisoner.

"You damned thief, you'd better make your little prayer, and be quick about it, too!" exclaimed Schuyler, as he leveled his rifle at Delshay and pulled the trigger. Click went the Winchester, then click again and again.

Delshay's warriors suddenly jumped to their feet, throwing aside their blankets to reveal weapons. Sieber, though, had wisely gathered his scouts as a rear guard, and they rushed forward to surround the lieutenant and his men. It was a standoff.

Delshay and his followers, along with Antone, bolted, while Sieber restored order and hustled Schuyler to his quarters. The lieutenant was fortunate to be alive, although he now faced the grim task of informing Crook that more than 1,000 Apaches and Yavapais had fled the reservation.

By September 18, Schuyler and Sieber, with 15 troopers and 23 Indian scouts, were in the saddle in pursuit of Delshay and his band. Most of the people who had fled Camp Verde returned, but small Apache raiding parties struck all around Prescott.

Schuyler and Sieber remained in the field for three months. They scouted east to the Aravaipa Canyon above old Camp Grant, fought a series of sharp skirmishes, in which their little command killed 83 Apaches, and led 26 prisoners back to Camp Verde. Delshay was not among the prisoners, for he had once again eluded the Army.

After the 1872–73 Tonto Basin Campaign, George Crook mistakenly declared the government's war with Apaches had ended. Crook (wearing a pith helmet) posed with some aides (Capt. George Randall stands to his right) and scouts from that campaign, including Mickey Free (front row, third from left, inset) and nine Apaches who earned the Medal of Honor for their actions.

COURTESY COLLECTION OF JEREMY ROWE VINTAGE PHOTOGRAPHY VINTAGEPHOTO.COM

"The more prompt these heads are brought in, the less liable other Indians, in the future, will be to jeopardize their heads."

The Severed Heads List

To force the Apaches onto their assigned agencies, Crook set several columns in motion, from Camps Verde, Whipple and Lowell. The largest, from Camp Grant under Randall's command, with McIntosh as chief scout, marched north to Camp Apache to unite with 5th Cavalry troopers and White Mountain Apache scouts.

"I have requested Maj. Randall to try & have Delche's *[sic]* head," Crook wrote Lt. Schuyler, "but if he has a strong party with him it is doubtful whether Maj. Randall's scouts will succeed."

The general sent out a list of prescribed Apaches who were to be killed and the bounties that would be paid upon the delivery of their heads. Crook surmised that the Apaches would turn on Delshay, Chan-deisi, Chunz, Cochinay and others in exchange for the reward or simply as a way to end the hostilities. "The more prompt these heads are brought in," he told Schuyler, "the less liable other Indians, in the future, will be to jeopardize their heads."

Randall had reported unrest among his camp's Apaches at about the same time as Almy's murder at San Carlos. The unrest had even spread among the scouts. After a tiswin-fueled brawl on July 16, one scout was dead and two others had deserted.

This was compounded by a whooping cough epidemic in September that killed three more scouts, as well as many other Apaches, and led many of the Western Apache bands to avoid congregating on the reservation. The same outbreak, which also struck Camp Verde, had contributed to the unrest leading to Delshay's outbreak.

Crook ordered a consolidation of the scouts in hopes of creating an elite force on the reservation. "These Indians will be selected from among the best of their several tribes," Crook instructed his officers, and "will constitute the police force of the reservation..."

Rolling in Heads

Sergeant Mickey Free was among those in service at Camp Apache. This remarkable 26 year old lived precariously between the conflicted worlds of the Apaches and the white invaders, never accepted by either, but invaluable to both. His 1861 kidnapping had started the war, and both sides curiously placed the blame for the conflict on him. Apaches called him Coyote, after their trickster animal, never quite certain if he was friend or foe.

Free, with 39 fellow scouts, accompanied 1st Lt. John Babcock with B Troop 5th Cavalry on an expedition in December 1873. In the brutal weather, the scouts located two rancherias in the mountains west of Camp Apache, captured 10 women and children, and killed 21 warriors. They returned to Camp Apache with their prisoners on January 4, 1874.

In early February, Capt. Randall, with Free and 60 Apache scouts, and several 5th Cavalry companies, marched west along the Salt River and turned south to strike Eskiminzin's village in the mountains northwest of San Carlos. The battle left all the property and animals, along with 34 women and children, in Randall's possession. Eskiminzin surrendered.

Two months later, Randall ordered Free, with 14 White Mountain scouts, to bring in Pedro, a notorious warrior who had fled the reservation with several companions. Free left Camp Apache on April 26. He returned the next day to deliver Pedro's head to Randall.

The military authorities were soon rolling in heads. Within three miles of Tucson, Cochinay was bagged by Apache scouts who delivered his head to San Carlos in May. A delighted Crook wrote Schuyler on June 23. "Recent telegram from Babcock says that John Daisy's [Chan-deisi's] head was brought into Camp Apache the other day, which leaves now only Chunz's head on his shoulders. . . Start your killers as soon as possible after the head of DelChe *[sic]* & Co."

Apache scouts ran Chunz to the ground in the Santa Catalina Mountains above Tucson in July. On July 31, Babcock wired Crook from San Carlos to report that the heads of Chunz and six of his compatriots were neatly arrayed on the post parade ground.

Delshay's days were numbered. Schuyler's Tonto scouts claimed first kill. They went old school and brought in a scalp with one ear attached and handed it to surgeon William Corbusier. He dispatched the grisly trophy by courier 14 miles downriver to Camp Verde. Sieber's scouts identified the scalp by a pearl shirt button dangling from the ear lobe. Another warrior upped the ante when he delivered Delshay's entire severed head.

Crook was not disturbed by these contrasting claims. "When I visited the Verde reservation, they would convince me that they had brought in his head," Crook declared with considerable amusement, "and when I went to San Carlos, they would convince me that they had brought in his head. Being satisfied that both parties were earnest in their beliefs, and the bringing in of an extra head was not amiss, I paid both parties."

On September 30, Crook reached Camp Apache after a hurried visit to San Carlos to meet with Babcock. He congratulated Capt. Randall, Corydon Cooley and the White Mountain scouts for their excellent work in breaking up the last of Delshay's band.

On August 18, Cooley, accompanied by Free and the Company A scouts, had surprised the remnants of Chappo's demoralized band at Black Mesa and killed 13 warriors. On their way back to Camp Apache, the scouts had surprised another small rancheria at the northern end of the Sierra Anchas and killed 10 more Tontos.

These constant scout movements had made it impossible for any of the Apache bands to remain off the reservation. Harassed, demoralized and starving, they

returned to the agencies in ever greater numbers. Crook's brutal tactics had proven eminently successful—despite their rather Medieval methods—and brought about a brief peace in Arizona Territory.

Paul Andrew Hutton will be publishing a book tentatively titled *The Lords of Apacheria*, with Crown in New York City. He has published 10 books and teaches history at the University of New Mexico

THE NEW FACE OF APACHERIA

On December 4, 1874, Camp Verde hired Mickey Free as an Indian interpreter for $125 a month, a substantial increase over his $17 a month scout wage. His scouting duty for Gen. George Crook had paid rich dividends, despite the fiction employed to enlist him as a White Mountain Apache scout. Everyone now knew his story—that he had been kidnapped by the Aravaipa Apaches in 1861, in the so-called Bascom Affair, and that he was Mexican, not Apache. Free, unlike the other Apache scouts, could come and go as he pleased, like any other Arizona citizen.

The day after he was hired as interpreter, Free greeted Lt. George Eaton, his new boss, upon his return from a scout into the mountains. With Eaton were 20 Indian scouts under the command of Al Sieber, a tribe of men Free would be joining.

The Indians called the 30-year-old chief of scouts "Sibber," while the whites called the Apache scouts "Sieber's Scouts" or "Sieber's Apaches." All were in awe of Sieber's unflinching courage; he eventually bore 29 arrow or bullet scars on his body.

As he rode in astride his favorite white jennet, Sieber cut quite a figure. "A broad brimmed, battered slouch hat was pulled well down over his brows; his flannel shirt and canvas trousers showed hard usage, his pistol belt hung loose and low upon his hips and on each side a revolver swung," recalled 5th Cavalry Lt. Charles King. "His rifle—Arizona fashion—was balanced athwart the pommel of his saddle, and an old Navajo blanket was rolled at the cantle. He wore Tonto leggins and moccasins, and a good-sized pair of Mexican spurs jingled at his heels."

Free, scrawny, disheveled, looking even younger than his 27 years, dressed like a White Mountain Apache. He could not yet match Sieber's hard-bitten scout persona. In time, he would adopt considerable style, far more than Sieber ever sported.

That day marked the beginning of a remarkable partnership—one that would forever change the face of Apacheria. Some years later, when asked by Lt. Britton Davis about his enigmatic friend who appeared to be neither white nor Apache—Sieber simply replied, with rough frontier affection, that Free was "half Mexican, half Irish and whole son of a bitch."

Chief of Scouts Al Sieber was crippled for life after his leg stopped a .45-70 bullet while trying to disarm the Apache Kid and others after a deadly drunken melee at San Carlos during the summer of 1887.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

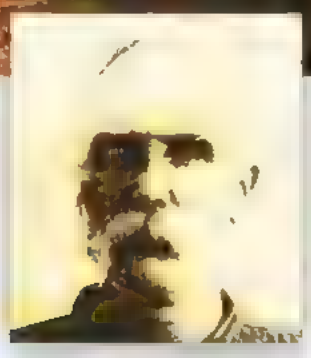
Photographed circa 1888 with his two wives, Ethlay and Ocheheh (above), and also by himself (top), Mickey Free is dressed far more colorfully and sharply than he was when Sieber first met the scout. Free lived out his life as an Apache on the White Mountain reservation and died in 1914.

TOP COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION. ABOVE COURTESY MARC SIMMONS

BY NORMAN W. BROWN

The Moonshiner Who Got Away with Murder

...and escaped the hangman's noose.



(Top) These veterans of William Holland Thomas's 69th North Carolina Regiment posed for this reunion gathering in North Carolina, circa 1905. Harve Bruce (above) served in the unit as a teenager. He went from soldier to prisoner when he was in his 50s.

COURTESY J. D. FORTNER

My daddy, he made whiskey
And my granddaddy did too
And we ain't paid no whiskey tax
Since Seventeen Ninety-Two.

Albert Frank Beadoe

The notorious gunfighter John Wesley Hardin was given a 25-year prison sentence for murder in the second degree after being convicted in the district court of Comanche County, Texas, for killing Brown County Deputy Sheriff Charlie Webb.

Nearly 25 years after the deadly shoot-out, in 1897, almost 500 miles to the northeast, in the mountains of Arkansas, William Harvey "Harve" Bruce would kill two deputy U.S. marshals and put hot lead into two posse members, while the other two scattered like quail into the wild and uncut Boston Mountains. Fate gave him a better hand than Hardin got.

A Dead Shot

Bruce grew up experienced in the use of firearms. He was just 16 years old when he joined the confederacy in William Holland Thomas's North Carolina legion of Cherokee Indians and mountaineers. Young Bruce proved himself in a number of battles and gained the reputation as a dead shot before reaching his 17th birthday.

John Wesley Hardin (below) claimed that, while he was celebrating his 21st birthday at a saloon in Comanche, Texas, his friend yelled that Brown County Deputy Sheriff Charles Webb was drawing his gun. Hardin reacted and shot Webb dead. The gunfighter was sentenced to 25 years, but served only 16 years. He was released on February 17, 1894, pardoned of his crime and earned his license to practice law.

COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION

Fate gave this cop killer a far lighter sentence than John Wesley Hardin got.

On Sunday morning, August 29, 1897, 55-year-old Bruce was visiting, or so he claimed, friends who were operating a still in Bullfrog Valley, Pope County, Arkansas. "Everyone knows where the Bull Frog Valley is. That is where the genuine wild-catter [moonshiner] blooms and flourishes as prolific as morning glories on the back porch of a farm house," reported *The Mountain Wave* newspaper in Searcy County.

Almost two months prior, on June 28, the Bullfrog Valley Gang, "one of the most dangerous organizations of counterfeiters that has operated in the United States in recent years," was reported "wiped out." Deputy U.S. marshals had captured the leaders of the gang, headquartered in Pope County, who had floated money to "nearly all the principal cities in the country" and even in Toronto in Canada. Bullfrog Valley was indeed a hotbed of criminal activity.

Bruce was sitting on a fence, talking to his friend, when he spotted a number of men mounted on horses headed his way. Bruce claimed the men opened fire without warning when they approached the camp. He grabbed his rifle and returned fire.

His first shot killed Capt. Benjamin F. Taylor, and his second shot killed Joseph Dodson, both deputy U.S. marshals. Taylor, of Searcy County, was a wealthy 57-year-old farmer who had served time as a senator in Arkansas before embarking on his career as a deputy in 1895. The 28-year-old Dodson, of Stone County, had a reputation for busting moonshine operations throughout the region.

Still under attack, Bruce spotted another man, whose elbow was exposed from behind a tree. One shot put him out of action as he howled and fell to the ground. Bruce's next shot seriously wounded one man crawling on his belly by putting the round into his hip.

Three men allegedly running the moonshine still were captured a few weeks later. They were Turner Skidmore, James Alva Church and Dave Millsaps. All were charged with murder and illicit distilling.

Must Not Be Paroled

Bruce evaded capture for a year. The Taylor family posted a reward, offering $550 for Bruce's capture, dead or alive. Other rewards increased the amount to $1,000.

Bruce finally let his guard down and went home to his family. J.W. Gist, a friend, neighbor and cattle trader, was watching the house and saw Bruce enter. That night, when Bruce sat at the table, with his rifle propped against the wall, Gist crashed in through the door and grabbed Bruce's rifle. Gist and his son handed off Bruce to authorities. That is the story printed in the newspaper, but family lore claims Bruce convinced the Gists that he would let them turn him over to the law, with the understanding that the reward would be given to him. "I'll need a good lawyer, and that money will fill the bill," he told them.

When the case reached district court in Pope County, the federal government threw a monkey wrench into the grinding gears of justice. The U.S. attorney put the brakes on the murder trial, saying, "These men will first be tried for Illicit Distilling and will take precedence over the murder trial. You can have them only after they do their time in federal prison."

Bruce, Skidmore and Church were convicted for illicit distilling and sentenced to three years at Leavenworth in Kansas. Millsaps was acquitted. Bruce arrived at the prison on November 6, 1898. He gave his occupation as farmer; of course, a moonshiner must have grain to make his Devil's brew. His prison record was flagged with the statement, "Must not be Paroled. Notify sheriff in Little Rock, Ark., 2 mo's prior to discharge; by order of warden."

On July 19, 1899, Bruce, Church and Skidmore were released to the custody of the state of Arkansas to stand trial for the murder of those two deputy marshals.

"My Life Was in Danger"

Bruce probably never heard of Hardin and his sentence of 25 years for killing a county lawman. But he had heard of "Hanging Judge" Isaac Parker. Although the judge had died in 1896, Bruce knew, without a doubt, that anyone killing a lawman was surely going to swing by the neck.

In Fort Smith, the men were tried for Taylor and Dodson's murders. At the trial, Bruce said, "I did all the shooting under the mistaken idea that my life was in danger." He testified that the posse members did not identify themselves as lawmen nor did they

The federal deputies Judge Isaac Parker sent out to capture the lawbreakers in the 1890s included these marshals, posing in front of a land office in Perry, Oklahoma, in 1892. Bruce faced against men with similar dress and weaponry in his 1897 shoot out. Unless you saw the badge, these marshals looked like pretty much everyone else you encountered in those days

COURTESY SUSAN SWAIN PETERS COLLECTION, OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

state their intentions. Bruce believed he was being attacked by a rival gang of moonshiners. He was the only one shooting back, he said, adding that his friend had fled the scene when the posse shot at them.

The jury acquitted everyone except Bruce. He pleaded self-defense. The prosecution's case looked weak; strangely, the wounded posse members who survived the attack, Clay Renfro and S.B. Lawrence, were not called on to testify. With many citizens resenting the government's stand against making moonshine, a jury of his peers convicted Bruce of involuntary manslaughter. He was sentenced, not to hang, not 25 years busting big rocks into little rocks, but a meager six months.

The Taylor family had to be fuming. They had paid $550 hard cash for his capture, and he was given six months in prison for the murders of two cops—a lighter sentence than Bruce had gotten for illegal distribution of moonshine. The court records are not clear, but perhaps Judge John Henry Rogers considered the stint at Leavenworth as time served. The charge may have been downgraded from murder to justifiable homicide for the dead cops and assault for the wounded cops. If the marshals charged in without identifying themselves, as they often did, the jurors probably saw Bruce's actions as reasonable.

Escaping the Noose

During Judge Parker's rule, the Western District of Arkansas dealt with nearly 4,000 liquor violators between 1875 and 1896. For first convictions, Parker often gave out six month sentences per offense. During that same time period, grand juries issued 3,942 indictments for murder, but only 161 killers were convicted.

Upholding federal laws in the Fort Smith, Arkansas, courthouse, which oversaw the 74,000-square-mile Indian Territory, was a massive responsibility. Parker earned a reputation for hanging the most dangerous of these offenders. But under Judge Rogers, Bruce did not pay for his crimes with his life.

To add insult to injury for the Taylor family, the court turned Bruce loose on his own recognizance, so he could arrange his business affairs, and then report to the penitentiary in Little Rock. He did.

By the following summer, Bruce had landed himself in a unique position. In August 1900, while discussing the building of a new prison, Superintendent Bud McConnell told his supper guests, J.E. Little, Dr. Foster Richardson and J.W. Underhill, about his inmate Bruce. "He is now a guard on one of the walls,"

Deputy U.S. Marshal Joseph Dodson (below) had a reputation as a moonshiner's nightmare. He was shot dead, along with Deputy U.S. Marshal Benjamin F. Taylor (bottom), on August 29, 1897.

DODSON COURTESY NORMAN W. BROWN; TAYLOR COURTESY TINKALEW COLLECTION

Deputy U.S. Marshal B.F. Taylor's wife and relatives authorized a reward of $550 (inset), in addition to state and federal rewards, for the capture of Harve Bruce. (From left, seated) Benjamin and his wife, Mary, sit with unidentified Taylor family relatives.

TAYLOR FAMILY COURTESY TINKALEW COLLECTION
WANTED POSTER COURTESY J.D. FORTNER

McConnell said. "I told him being he could use a Winchester so dexterously on marshals he would make a good guard. He impresses me as one that would keep his promises, if possible."

Not only did fate give this cop killer a far lighter sentence than Hardin had gotten, but Bruce incredibly ended his incarceration with a job as a prison guard.

Old Habits Die Hard

After Bruce returned home to Van Buren County, the mountaineer still hated federal and local lawmen because both tried to prevent him from doing with his corn as he pleased. He felt he had as much right to make whiskey with his corn as his wife had to use it to make bread. He once argued, "Now, corn is selling for .30 cents a bushel, which is no kind of profit for the purse. But I can take that bushel of corn, make corn whiskey and sell it for two dollars a jug, then take the used corn and feed it to my hogs and they get just as fat and happy. It was money well needed for a poor mountain man."

He returned to illicit distilling, and he was nabbed a second time. Luckily, he didn't shoot, kill or wound anyone. Back to Leavenworth he went, on May 16, 1901, for another three-year sentence and a $500 fine. He ate an early Thanksgiving meal in prison and was paroled the next day, on November 26, 1902.

The mountaineer moonshiner and killer of men was well known as the best rifle shot in Arkansas. News articles often told of his hunting skills, reporting, "For Harve: Three Deer, Three Shots" or "Bruce kills three deer out of five while chasing them on the back of a mule."

After Bruce was released from Leavenworth the second time, he again became a prison guard. His son convinced him to stop making moonshine and to accept the meager .30 cents a bushel for his corn.

Norman W. Brown is coauthor, along with Chuck Parsons, of *A Lawless Breed: John Wesley Hardin, Texas Reconstruction, and Violence in the Wild West*. Brown also cowrote *Early Settlers of the Panhandle Plains*.

BY SANDRA K. SAGALA

Buffalo Bill's Deadly Acts

The life of a dangerous actor before he became the world's most famous showman.

This circa 1870s cabinet card of William F. Cody photographed by Napoleon Sarony reveals the 30-something actor during his theatre years.

COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS, JUNE 13, 2008

William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody may have appeared on the world stage as a confident showman, star of the Wild West show he formed in 1883. But he first learned how to dramatize events as an actor — often an inept one. Even worse: a dangerous one.

Shortly after he began his acting career in 1872, he and costar John Baker "Texas Jack" Omohundro thrilled audiences with acts that promised to "Wipe the redskins out." In their exuberance during one simulated Indian fight, actor W.J. Halpin, in the role of Big Wolf in "The Scouts of the Prairie," was inadvertently stabbed in the abdomen. He died of his injury less than a week later.

Another of Cody's costars could have done similar serious damage. Beginning in September 1873, James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok toured with the troupe for six months. His increasing boredom with playacting led him to purposefully torment the extras playing Indians. Instead of shooting over their heads during mock battles, he aimed at their legs, causing them to jump about instead of lying down and playing dead. Cody had to remonstrate with him more than once.

When Cody worked with fellow scout John Wallace "Captain Jack" Crawford during his 1876-77 season, Crawford prepared the blank cartridges Cody used onstage. Once, Crawford delegated the job to a property man, instructing him to stop the end of each shell with paraffin. The man thought a tallow candle would do, so he poked candle grease into the cartridges, six for each pistol. The first shot melted the wax, and sparks set off all the other cartridges. No one was injured, though an excited child ran out to alert the town that Cody was "massacreing *[sic]* the whole audience."

He dismounted, "rather unceremoniously," and blood began to soak his pants.

Cody fared luckier than his partner. In June 1877, during a performance of "The Red Right Hand" in Virginia City, Nevada, Crawford was engaging Cody in a fight on horseback when he drew his cocked pistol and accidentally shot himself in the groin. He dismounted, "rather unceremoniously," and blood began to soak his pants. For a moment, he carried on, in the spirit of the "show must go on," but when he reeled and began to fall, fellow actors carried him off stage. Crawford needed crutches for several weeks.

While misfortunes involving actors were regrettable, danger to the audience was unthinkable. In Baltimore, Maryland, on September 10, 1878, while charging his horse up a fake mountain onstage, Cody turned to fire at his Indian pursuers. The shot went wild and struck a young boy named Michael Gardner. Despite his having checked the ammunition before show time and deciding the bullets would hardly penetrate a cigar box, Cody had fired the errant, underloaded bullet (about five grains of powder per bullet) from a considerable height. Because the boy had been leaning over the front of the gallery, the bullet's trajectory proved disastrous. His lung punctured, Gardner was not expected to last the night. He eventually did recover, however, and Cody transported him to his Nebraska ranch for further recuperation. Newspapers condemned the recklessness and hoped such tragedy would lead to reform.

Occasionally the thrill of near death engendered outsiders to try their skill, sometimes with violent results. After a performance in Council Bluffs, Iowa, in October 1881, Cody left the theatre with his wife and daughters. Suddenly, a man on horseback rode to within a few feet of the family and fired. Cody's publicity agent witnessed the shooting and pointed the

Calling the play a "bloodthirsty drama," one critic explained, "The rifle and the scalping knife, with unlimited gunpowder and slaughter of Indians pervade the play from first to last."

COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS JUNE 10, 2012

The 30 year old John Wallace "Captain Jack" Crawford (left) teamed up with 31 year old Cody in 1877 to perform "The Red Right Hand," which dramatized Cody's loosely based claim of getting the first scalp for George Custer, who had been killed by Indians in battle the summer before

COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS, MAY 22, 2018

In April 1872, William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody (at right) and John Baker "Texas Jack" Omohundro (center) were the lead scouts in an Indian skirmish that earned Cody the Medal of Honor. That December, the pair began acting out their scouting adventures on the stage, in "The Scouts of the Prairie." In September 1873, Wild Bill Hickok (at left) joined them in the renamed "Scouts of the Plains." In 1883, after his pals left, Cody put together an extravaganza that ultimately became his world famous Wild West show.

COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

gunman out to police. Speculation had it that he was a "crazy crank" too enthused by Cody's fancy shots during the play.

Cody was fortunate. Other frontier performers in the 1880s, attempting to best or at least equal Cody's marksmanship displays, titillated audiences by shooting their rifles at an apple placed on the head of an assistant, often a pretty girl. These William Tell acts occasionally met disastrous, even deadly, results. In an 1882 article titled "One Good Result," a journalist described the contortions shooters had exercised to perform their treacherous feats. From shooting while standing on their heads to firing while leaning across the back of a chair with head thrown back, marksmen executed increasingly perverse gymnastics to incite audiences' fear and wonder.

The well-publicized killings of at least three people during such grisly performances broadened the call for reforms. The public was hard pressed to decide whether to blame the shooter or the law that permitted the dangerous exhibitions of skill.

So, with a heightened realization of potential jeopardy, performers gradually began to eliminate human targets in favor of glass balls. These included Annie Oakley, a popular performer who joined Cody's Wild West show in 1885. Even "Little Sure Shot"—whom one could bet would never miss, even when she used a hand mirror to shoot backwards—shot at glass balls, never trusting to luck or skill.

Sandra K. Sagala is the author of *Buffalo Bill on Stage*, published by University of New Mexico Press, and *Buffalo Bill on the Silver Screen*, published by University of Oklahoma Press.

TRUE WEST EXCLUSIVE

CLASSIC GUNFIGHTS

JAR HEAD!

JOAQUIN MURRIETA VS HARRY LOVE'S RANGERS

JUSTICE PRESERVED

Joaquin Murrieta was usually armed to the teeth, but on July 25, 1853, he is caught by surprise, unarmed

ILLUSTRATION BY BOB BOZE BELL

BY BOB BOZE BELL

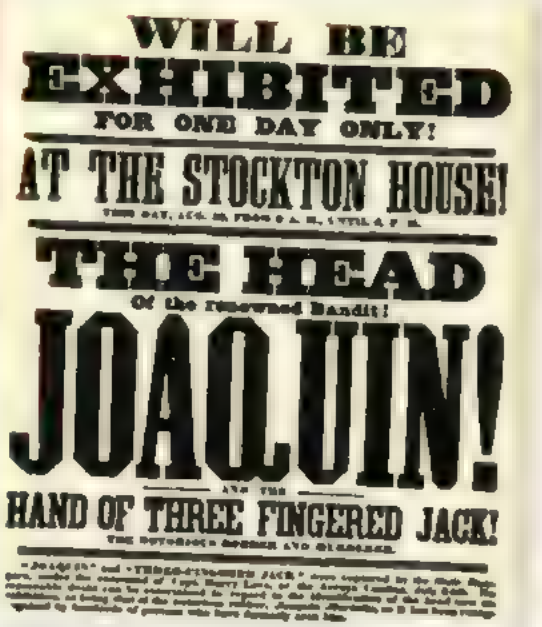
Maps & Graphics by Gus Walker

Based on the research of John Boessenecker

JULY 25, 1853

Joaquin Murrieta (above) is portrayed in newspapers as a demonic brigand; the advertisements for his head are equally sordid.

ALL IMAGES TRUE WEST ARCHIVES



Saddling up at 2 a.m. Harry Love and his fellow California Rangers ride out of their rugged mountain camp and make their way to Cantua Creek in central California. They have been on the trail of Joaquin Murrieta for more than two months.

By daybreak, they reach the spot where the creek enters the San Joaquin Valley. The Rangers spot the smoke of a campfire on the plains three miles in the distance.

Spurring their mounts, the Rangers approach within 400 yards. The camp comes alive as Love and his men gallop in and demand, at gunpoint, that the Mexicans stop in their tracks.

A handsome, long-haired native steps forward and says, "Talk to me. I am the leader of this band."

Ranger Bill Byrnes recognizes the bandit leader immediately: "This is Joaquin, boys! We have got him at last!"

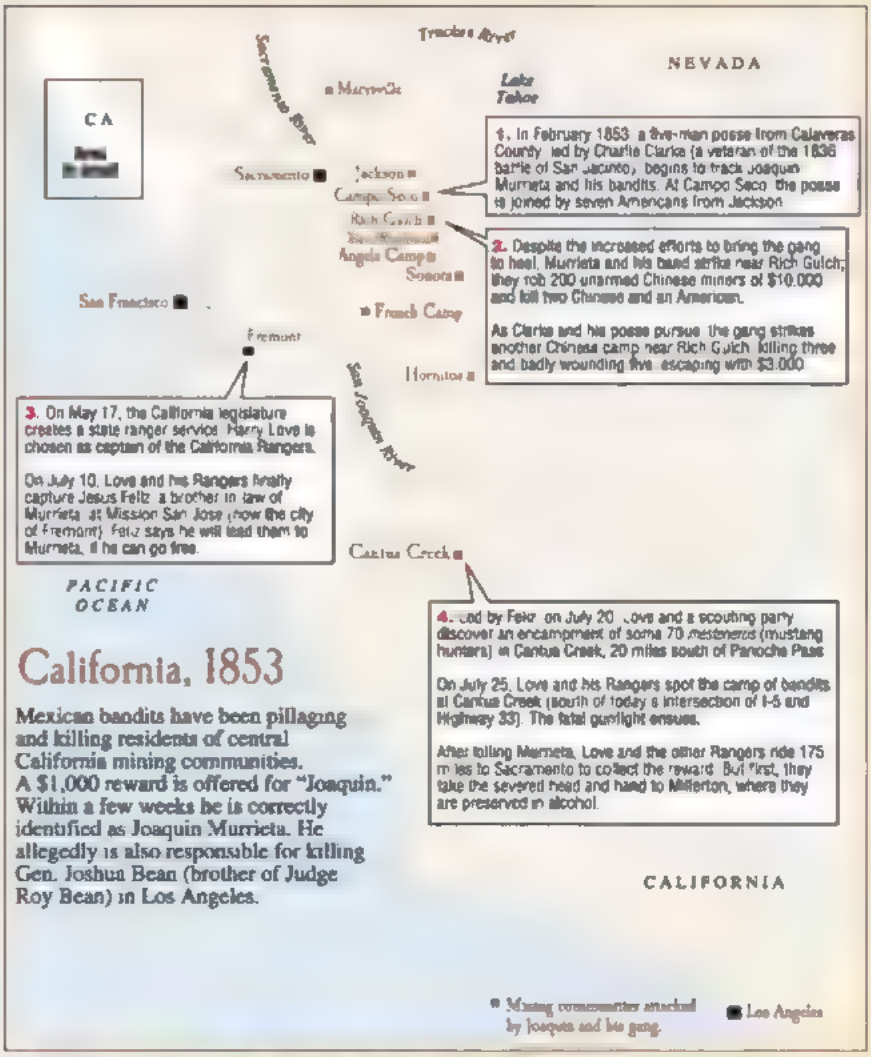
At this unexpected pronouncement, the assembled gang members fling open their serapes, whip out their pistols and blaze away.

A three-fingered desperado fires two shots at Love, parting the ranger's hair. Nine shots from the Rangers rip into the shooter, and he crumples to the ground

Murrieta leaps onto a horse bareback and jumps the horse down a 15-foot embankment into the creek bed. Ranger William Henderson fires at Murrieta with his shotgun, then spurs his horse down the embankment in pursuit. Henderson yanks his six-shooter and fires twice, hitting Murrieta's horse in the foot and then the leg, dropping the mount. Murrieta jumps free and flees on foot down the arroyo bed.

Ranger John White gallops along the embankment, above the arroyo, firing his rifle. Thirty yards from Murrieta, one ball from White's rifle and two balls from Henderson's pistol hit the outlaw leader in the back; Murrieta plunges headfirst into the wash

"No tire mas. Yo soy muerte," are Murrieta's last words ("Don't shoot anymore, I'm dead").


Truckee River
NEVADA
Lake Tahoe
Sacramento River
CA
Marysville
Sacramento
Jackson
Campo Seco
1. In February 1853, a five-man posse from Calaveras County, led by Charlie Clarke (a veteran of the 1836 battle of San Jacinto), begins to track Joaquin Murrieta and his bandits. At Campo Seco, the posse is joined by seven Americans from Jackson.
Rich Gulch
2. Despite the increased efforts to bring the gang to heel, Murrieta and his band strike near Rich Gulch; they rob 200 unarmed Chinese miners of $10,000 and kill two Chinese and an American.
As Clarke and his posse pursue, the gang strikes another Chinese camp near Rich Gulch, killing three and badly wounding five, escaping with $3,000.
Angels Camp
Sonora
San Francisco
French Camp
Fremont
Hornitos
San Joaquin River
3. On May 17, the California legislature creates a state ranger service. Harry Love is chosen as captain of the California Rangers.
On July 10, Love and his Rangers finally capture Jesus Feliz, a brother-in-law of Murrieta, at Mission San Jose (now the city of Fremont). Feliz says he will lead them to Murrieta, if he can go free.
Cantua Creek
PACIFIC OCEAN
4. Led by Feliz, on July 20, Love and a scouting party discover an encampment of some 70 mesteneros (mustang hunters) in Cantua Creek, 20 miles south of Panoche Pass.
On July 25, Love and his Rangers spot the camp of bandits at Cantua Creek (south of today's intersection of I-5 and Highway 33). The fatal gunfight ensues.
After killing Murrieta, Love and the other Rangers ride 175 miles to Sacramento to collect the reward. But first, they take the severed head and hand to Millerton, where they are preserved in alcohol.
CALIFORNIA
Mining communities attacked by Joaquin and his gang
Los Angeles

California, 1853

Mexican bandits have been pillaging and killing residents of central California mining communities. A $1,000 reward is offered for "Joaquin." Within a few weeks he is correctly identified as Joaquin Murrieta. He allegedly is also responsible for killing Gen. Joshua Bean (brother of Judge Roy Bean) in Los Angeles.

Although not authenticated, this alleged photo of Joaquin Murrieta does resemble descriptions of the bandit. The below head in the jar is an artist's conception

Aftermath: Odds & Ends

Four of the outlaws, including Bernardino Garcia (alias Three-Fingered Jack), were slain. Joaquin Murrieta's head was cut off (as was Garcia's hand) and packed in whiskey until the posse could reach Sacramento, California, and claim the $1,000 reward.

Harry Love exhibited Murrieta's head for $1 a view (see poster) in the central California mining camps where Murrieta was well known. Dr. Louis Jordan's San Francisco museum acquired the "trophy." It spent 30 years in the museum before being destroyed in the 1906 earthquake and fire.

With his reward money, Love bought a large tract of land near Santa Cruz and married neighbor Mary Bennett in 1854. But they had a rough marriage, and she left him in 1866. In debt, Love confronted Bennett on June 29, 1868, and was shot by a handyman working for her. Love died of complications from the wound and a botched operation.

From the beginning, some refused to believe Murrieta had been killed. In the 1950s and '60s, this refrain gained credence when several authors maintained Murrieta never existed and that Ranger Love faked the episode; they claimed he used some poor Indian's *cabeza* as a float in. Yet research by authors William Secrest and John Boessenecker has convincingly proven otherwise; too many eyewitnesses who knew Murrieta in the mining camps had also testified the head of the infamous *bandido* was, in fact, in the jar.

Recommended: *Gold Dust & Gunsmoke* by John Boessenecker, published by John Wiley & Sons. *The Man from the Rio Grande* by William Secrest, published by Arthur H. Clark Company.

TOM AUGHERTON

Henry Larkin Abbot

A PRIVILEGED EASTERNER HELPED TO BUILD THE WEST, SAVE THE UNION AND DESIGN THE PANAMA CANAL.

With his staff, Bvt. Brig. Gen. Henry L. Abbot, who was a lieutenant when the war started, inspected the impenetrable defenses of the recently abandoned Confederate fort at Drewry's Bluff above the James River in April 1865.

PHOTOS COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

FROM the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans, in peacetime and on bloody fields of war, Henry L. Abbot engineered the infrastructure of a new nation—during a lifetime that spanned nearly a century—and many of the greatest engineering feats in history.

Born August 13, 1831, in Beverly, Massachusetts, Henry was Joseph Hale Abbot and Fanny Ellingwood Larcom's first of seven children. The father's side of the family descended from George Abbot, who emigrated from Yorkshire, England, to Andover, Massachusetts, in 1642.

His parents sent Henry to Boston's Latin School and then to West Point, where he graduated in June 1854, ranking second in his class. Ironically, his fellow classmates included G.W. Custis Lee, son of Robert E. Lee, and James Ewell Brown "Jeb" Stuart, and within a few years the classmates were wearing uniforms on opposite sides of the Civil War.

Abbot chose a career with the U.S. Corps of Engineers, which in 1855 sent him West to scout possible rail routes from California to Oregon. His adventures took him from Sacramento north to The Dalles, Oregon. Because of an Indian uprising, he was forced to survey a different route than initially planned. His survey with Indian guide Sam An-ax-shat led him over the Cascades to Oregon City. The pass and trail bear his name today.

> "His engineering report... using a series of locks... was ultimately adopted in the construction of the Panama Canal."

In 1861, Lt. Abbot was with General Irvin McDowell's troops at the First Battle of Bull Run, where he was seriously wounded and brevetted to captain for "gallant and meritorious services." Abbot recovered and later directed the construction of numerous Union defensive battlefield structures.

His development of the use of heavy mortars for coastal defenses and siege warfare, as he employed during the Battle of Petersburg in Virginia, led him to engineer a post-war, seacoast mortar battery system known as the "Abbot Quad." His post-war study with Capt. Andrew A. Humphreys of the Mississippi River, *Report Upon the Physics and Hydraulics of the Mississippi River*, would influence 140 years of river management.

Abbot served in the Army Corps of Engineers until his retirement in 1895. His final contribution to engineering—and American history—came during his service as a consultant on the construction of the Panama Canal—first for the French from 1897 to 1900, and then for the United States from 1905 to 1906. His engineering report to President Theodore Roosevelt on using a series of locks across the isthmus was ultimately adopted in the construction of the Panama Canal.

At the end of his life, Abbot returned to Massachusetts, living in Cambridge until his death on October 1, 1927, at the age of 96, not far from where his family first came ashore nearly three centuries before. ★

Tom Augherton is an Arizona-based freelance writer. Do you know about an unsung character of the Old West whose story we should share here? Send the details to *stuart@twmag.com*, and be sure to include high resolution historical photos.

Fresh out of West Point, 2nd Lt. Henry L. Abbot's first engineering assignment was to the Pacific Northwest to survey strategic rail routes from Sacramento to the resource-rich Columbia River basin. In 1873, the California Geological Society recognized him for his work on the survey by naming Mount Abbot, a peak in the Sierra Nevada, in his honor.

BY CANDY MOULTON

Exploring the Old Oregon Country

Tracking David Thompson and the North West Company across the Canadian and American West.

From 1807 to 1811, British fur trapper David Thompson explored and trapped the Columbia River Valley from Invermere, British Columbia, to the river's mouth at the North West Company's newly established Fort Astoria

COURTESY DESTINATION BC/DAVID GLUNS

David Thompson was fourteen when he began his life in North America as a clerk's apprentice with the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC). He may have been in HBC's employ for decades if he had not had a chance to do a bit of exploring across Canada. The idea of seeing new country obviously appealed to the boy, who after suffering with a severely broken leg that laid him up in camp for most of a year, learned the skills necessary to survey and map the countryside.

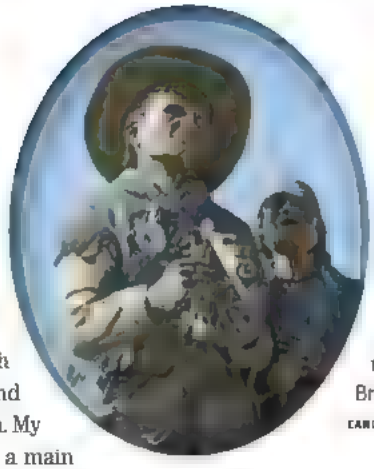
Working for HBC, Thompson visited portions of central Canada, but when it appeared the company intended to assign him to a stationary post, he did not hesitate. He quit HBC and, not even skipping a beat, immediately found a job with the North West Company.

This rival company, also headquartered in Canada, already had trading posts across the province, and soon Thompson picked up his explorations. He was one of the first fur traders to cross the Canadian Rockies from Rocky Mountain House (north of Calgary) into the interior valley of the Columbia River source west of the Continental Divide, and he became the first white explorer to travel the full course of the Columbia River.

Following a Trail Blazer

I picked up Thompson's North West Company (NWC) trail in Invermere, British Columbia, finding a life-size sculpture of Thompson and his Cree wife, Charlotte Small, at a small park near the city's main business district. A visit to the Invermere Museum and a viewing of its small display related to Thompson and the NWC gave me the information I needed to locate the site

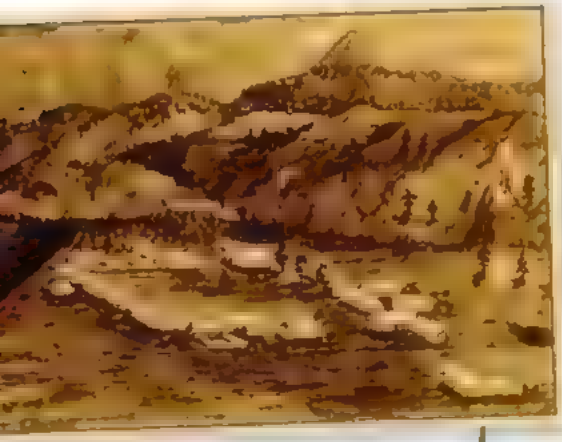
From Invermere I begin following the Columbia River—north!



Explorer David Thompson with his Cree wife, Charlotte Small, are immortalized in bronze in Invermere, British Columbia.

CANDY MOULTON

of Kootenae House, established in 1807 by Thompson. From this point Thompson traded with native trappers and explored the Kootenay River and the Upper Columbia River. Ultimately he would establish a chain of fur trade posts in northern Idaho, and along the Columbia watershed. Situated on a hillside above the river, Kootenae House remained in use periodically until 1812, when it was abandoned.



Fort Colville, established in 1859 as part of the American military's chain of new outposts along the Columbia River in Washington Territory, was in close proximity to the Hudson's Bay Company's original Fort Colville, founded in 1825

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

On my route to Invermere, I had made a stop at Fort Steele, now a heritage town, hoping to bump into a living history interpreter I know in the region who portrays Jaco Finlay, the NWC explorer who preceded Thompson into the Columbia drainage in 1806. While I did not find my friend, I did have a great time at this heritage site

From Invermere I begin following the Columbia River—north! Yes, in this area of Canada the mighty river makes a long route north before it carves through stunning high peaks and begins a swing to the south. My next stop is Revelstoke, a main point on the Canada Pacific Railroad (and home of the Revelstoke Railway Museum) In the evening I take in the music at Grizzly Plaza (styles change nightly and it happened to be blues when I was in town) But honestly I'm more interested in the Revelstoke Museum and Archives, which has a small exhibit about Thompson and the North West Company After a cup of tea with the museum director (there are perks to my job!) and a review of their exhibits, including one about the various nationalities of people who live in Revelstoke or who have visited here, I'm back on the road.

West of Revelstoke, I cannot resist a stop at the The Last Spike—the point where the Canada Pacific Rails met—the equivalent of Promontory, Utah, where the Union Pacific and Central Pacific met in 1869 And I visit 3 Valley Gap Heritage Ghost Town, where I step into most of the 25 historic structures, and am amazed at the Roundhouse. While I suspect most of the tour busses unload at the Revelstoke Railway Museum, this Roundhouse exhibit is phenomenal. It may not have fancy interpretive signs, but the fact that you can explore several engines and train cars makes this totally worth the stop.

Fort Steele Heritage Town (above), a living history museum adjacent to the Kootenay River, celebrates Canadian frontier history west of the Rockies, including an annual Canadian Royal Mounted Police riding demonstration on Dominion Day, July 1.

PHOTOS COURTESY DESTINATION BC/DAVID GLUNS

Preserving the rich frontier mining history of the area, 3 Valley Gap Heritage Ghost Town (below) stands west of Revelstoke, British Columbia on the Trans Canada Highway #1, adjacent to the famed 3 Valley Lake Chateau

Following the Columbia Southward

David Thompson and the NWC weren't content to work the streams in Canada, although they did establish a post near today's Kamloops, British Columbia. The Columbia rolls south, flowing out of British Columbia into today's Washington, before it turns west and forms the border between Washington and Oregon. I head south, too, crossing the Canadian-American border north of Kettle Falls, Washington. (A travel note here, the first border crossing point I reached closed at 5 p.m. and I did not arrive until 5:10 so I had to drive another 45 minutes to the nearest crossing point, which was open much later in the evening, so plan ahead for those border crossings. Oh, and don't try to put anything over on the security personnel. I was the only car in the area at the crossing and did not do a full stop at the stop sign—for which I was severely reprimanded! When I smiled and apologized, the guard simply glowered at me Welcome back to the United States!)

One of the NWC's main trading sites was Spokane House, at the confluence of the Spokane and Little Spokane rivers in what is now Riverside State Park near Spokane, Washington (9.5 miles north on highway 291). Established by Thompson and NWC in 1810, it was the first permanent white settlement in the current state of Washington.

During the following year, 1811, Thompson continued downriver to the mouth of the Columbia, which made him the first non-native (indeed, perhaps the first man ever) to traverse the entire length of the Columbia River from its source near Invermere, British Columbia, north through the precipitous mountains to Revelstoke and then south to Kettle Falls and on westward to the Pacific Ocean.

He was the forerunner for the NWC, which rivaled HBC for domination of the Canadian fur country, and then made a mark in the American fur trade as well.

The completion of the transcontinental Canadian Pacific Railway is memorialized with a mural at the Revelstoke Railway Museum's satellite Last Spike Museum at Craigellachie, British Columbia

COURTESY DESTINATION BC/DAVID GLUNS

Down the Columbia to the Pacific

My route takes me from Spokane to Tri-Cities (Pasco/Kennewick/Richland, Washington), site of the newly opened Hanford Reach Interpretive Center, which focuses much of its interpretation on the plants, animals, fish and other critters of the region. Its "Living Land" exhibit, particularly, lets visitors learn more about the flora and

AMERICAN MYTHMAKER
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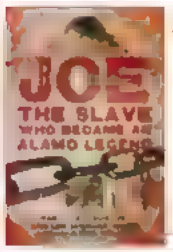
Before Custer tells of a little-known but crucial episode in the history of westward expansion and Native peoples' efforts to halt that expansion.



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By Ron J. Jackson, Jr., and Lee Spencer White
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Joe, the Slave Who Became an Alamo Legend recovers a true American character from obscurity and expands our view of events central to the emergence of Texas.

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Motoring West creates a vibrant picture of the American West in the age of automotive ascendancy, as viewed from behind the wheel.

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The Museum of the Mountain Man (below) in Pinedale, Wyoming, celebrates the history and heritage of the fur trapping era of the American West, and is situated near the famed Green River Rendezvous site

COURTESY WYOMING TOURISM

Columbia River explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark are featured in the Hanford Reach Interpretive Center Museum's "Living Land" exhibit (above)

CANDY MOULTON

fauna and hear stories of connection to the landscape from the perspective of the Wanapum and Nez Perce/Palouse people, as well as fish and wildlife biologists.

Downriver I visit The Dalles, where native people routinely fished for salmon as the signature species of the Columbia drainage moved upriver each year to spawning grounds. I continue on to Vancouver, site of the rival Hudson's Bay Company post, before reaching the mouth of the river at Astoria. This is where Meriwether Lewis and William Clark wintered. The famed American explorers came to the region just six years before David Thompson arrived.

John Jacob Astor established a trade post for his Pacific Fur Company by 1812 in Astoria, a venture that he sold to the NWC in 1813.

Back Across the Rockies

Thompson explored the Upper Clark Fork in present-day Montana in 1812, where he established Saleesh House near Thompson Falls. Earlier he had established Kullyspel House on the north shore of Lake Pend Oreille, in what's now Idaho.

The legendary North West Company trapper, trader and scout Peter Skene Ogden lived his last years as a neighbor of Dr. Forbes Barclay in Oregon City, and is buried nearby in the Mountain View Cemetery

COURTESY MYHOODYERRITORY.COM

After Thompson returned to Canada, the strong rivalry between the NWC and HBC continued, as traders and trappers working for the NWC worked their way down other streams, ultimately taking beaver and other furs in Montana, Wyoming, Idaho and Utah.

One of the better-known fur men, Maine native Osborne Russell, worked

The Fort Dalles' Surgeon's Quarters, built in 1857, now houses the Fort Dalles Museum in The Dalles, Oregon. Visitors following David Thompson's trail to the Pacific should also visit the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center

COURTESY SUSAN BUCE

for the NWC in Minnesota and Wisconsin, and in 1814 joined the Columbia River Fishing and Trading Company. Under that company's banner he made it to Wyoming where he trapped along Ham's Fork and explored Yellowstone country. In 1834, he joined Nathaniel J. Wyeth's expedition from Fort Hall on the Snake River to Oregon Country. In 1842, he returned to Oregon and settled in the Willamette Valley and helped found the territory. His *Journal of a Trapper* remains one of the best firsthand accounts of the fur trade life.

Peter Skene Ogden joined the NWC in 1809 as an apprentice clerk. His first station was at Île-à-la-Crosse, Saskatchewan, Canada. He and fellow clerk Samuel Blank tangled with a Hudson's Bay employee soon after Ogden started his work with NWC, and quickly earned a reputation as a hothead and brawler. By 1814, Ogden was in charge of the post at the north end of Green Lake, about 100 miles south of Île-à-la-Crosse. His brawling turned deadly. Once he reportedly "butchered in a most cruel manner" an Indian who traded with HBC rather than the NWC.

Ogden was indicted for a murder in Canada in March 1818, but when the NWC transferred him to the Columbia department that year, he eluded prosecution. He would ultimately work at Fort George near Astoria, Oregon, Spokane House, and at the Thompson's River Post near Kamloops, British Columbia.

After the NWC and HBC formed a coalition in 1821, Ogden set aside his earlier rivalry and regained favor with the Hudson's Bay Company, ultimately being appointed a chief trader. He returned to Spokane House for a time, but then took over operations for the Snake River Country, exploring, trapping and trading in a huge region including present-day Oregon and Idaho, and parts of California, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming. He discovered the Humboldt River in Nevada, saw the Great Salt Lake, and most likely made it into the lower Colorado River country. He took part in a rendezvous at Bear Lake and his name is now associated with a Utah city not far from some of his old stomping ground.

I pick up the trails of Osborne Russell and Peter Skene Ogden by traveling across Idaho to Yellowstone National Park, and then heading south for a visit to the Museum of the Mountain Man in Pinedale, Wyoming. I conclude my travels (more than 2,000 miles round-trip from my home in Encampment, Wyoming) at the Bear Lake Rendezvous in northern Utah, and with a visit to the American West Heritage Center in Logan, Utah, where a primitive camp and recreated fur trader's cabin, along with a friendly living-history interpreter bring the era to life once again.

Candy Moulton ate at her first Tim Hortons on this trip to British Columbia.

Side Roads

PLACES AND EVENTS TO VISIT

Fort Steele Heritage Town, *Fort Steele, British Columbia*; **Revelstoke Museum and Archives**, *Revelstoke*, **3 Valley Gap Heritage Ghost Town**, **Hanford Reach Interpretive Center**, *Richland, WA*; **Yakama Nation Cultural Heritage Center**, *Toppenish*; **Columbia Gorge Discovery Center** *The Dalles, OR*; **Columbia River Maritime Museum**, *Astoria*; **Museum of the Mountain Man** *Pinedale, WY*, **Bear Lake Rendezvous** in August, *Bear Lake, UT*, **American West Heritage Center**, *Logan*.

GOOD EATS & SLEEPS

Good Grub: The Village Idiot, (*Revelstoke, British Columbia*), **Woolsey Creek Café**, (*Revelstoke*), **Casa Mia Italian Restaurant**, (*Richland, WA*), **Old Faithful Inn dining room**, (*Yellowstone National Park, WY*); **The Bunnery**, (*Jackson*)

Lodging: Best Western Invermere Inn, (*Invermere, B.C.*); **Minto Manor Bed and Breakfast**, (*Revelstoke*), **Hampton Inn**, (*Richland, WA*), **Cousins' Country Inn** (*The Dalles, OR*)

GOOD BOOKS/FILMS & TV

Good Books: ***Sources of the River: Tracking David Thompson across North America*** by Jack Nisbet; ***The Mapmaker's Eye: David Thompson on the Columbia Plateau*** by Jack Nisbet, ***Columbia Journals by David Thompson***, Barbara Belyea (Editor), ***Journal of a Trapper: In the Rocky Mountains Between 1834 and 1843*** by Osborne Russell, edited by Aubrey Haines, ***The Columbia*** (Rivers of America Series) by Stewart H. Holbrook.

Good Films & TV: ***Shadows of David Thompson*** (A Film by George Sibley), ***The Mountain Men*** (Columbia Pictures), ***The Big Sky*** (RKO Radio Pictures), ***Across the Wide Missouri*** (MGM), ***The Trap*** (George H. Brown Productions), ***Hudson's Bay*** (Twentieth Century Fox), ***Hudson's Bay*** (United Artists Television)

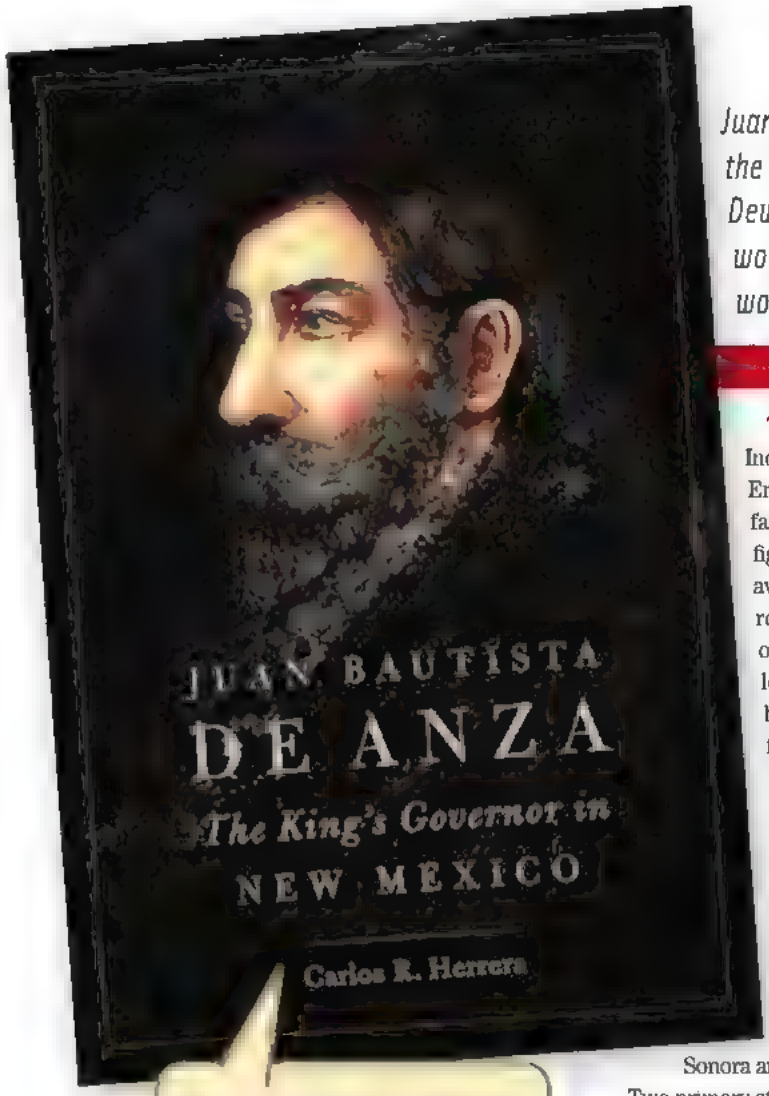
Revelstoke Museum and Archives

CANDY MOULTON

WESTERN BOOKS

BOOK REVIEWS EDITOR: STUART ROSEBROOK

Juan Bautista de Anza: Sonora's Son of the Empire



Juan Bautista de Anza's governorship that shaped the Southwest, plus a poignant biography of Lakota Dewey Beard, the intimate history of Western women, the rise of tourism in the West, and a wild, wondrous tale of Wyatt Earp.

Thirty years before the American Colonies' Declaration of Independence, Juan Bautista de Anza II was born at the Spanish Empire's presidio outpost, Fronteras, in Sonora, Mexico. His father, Captain Juan Bautista de Anza I, was an army captain fighting to protect the Spanish settlements against the empire's avowed enemies, the Apache. As the son of the empire with royal ties, de Anza II was raised on the frontier as the youngest of six children. His father, one of the most respected Spanish leaders by all factions, settlers, missionaries, natives, and bureaucrats, was killed in 1740 in an Apache ambush. Only four at the time of his father's death, young de Anza II's life would be defined by life on the Sonoran frontier, and ultimately lead him to a career that would continue his father's military mission for New Spain in the American Southwest.

Carlos R. Herrera's poignant and insightful biography, *Juan Bautista de Anza. The King's Governor in New Mexico* (University of Oklahoma Press, $29.95), redefines DeAnza's life—and career—in a new paradigm, as a native Mexican whose legendary career as an agent of the Spanish Empire was successful because he was born, raised and educated in Sonora among the people he would serve in war and peace.

Juan Bautista de Anza II's life would be defined by life on the Sonoran frontier. ...

Two primary strengths of Herrera's biography are his detailed endnotes and bibliography and his balanced approach to his subject in the context of the greater intersection of Sonora, Indian and Spanish Empire history. Herrera's

According to author Carlos Herrera, Juan Bautista de Anza, as a child of Sonora, had great empathy for the native tribes of the Southwest, including the Pima people, whom de Anza met while he was a military leader and explorer for New Spain prior to his assignment as governor of New Mexico

THE PIMA BY DAVID RICKMAN FROM THE ANZA TRAIL ILLUSTRATIONS, COURTESY OF NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AND DAVID RICKMAN

triangulation of these historical actors, as well as his interpretation of the influence of geography, religion and nationalist loyalty, is reminiscent of Donald.W. Meinig's thesis in *Southwest. Three Peoples in Geographic Change, 1600 to 1970.* Herrera's biography should also be considered a prequel to S.C. Gwynne's Comanche history, *Empire of the Summer Moon.*

As an associate professor of history and director of the Borderlands Institute at San Diego State University—Imperial Valley, Herrera clearly understands the importance of interpreting the actions of de Anza both from the perspective of a native Sonoran and a servant of the king in relation to native peoples.

Herrera's book provides scholars, students and aficionados of the American West with a new narrative and perspective on Mexico's native-born leadership in 18th-century New Spain. I highly recommend *Juan Bautista de Anza* because Herrera's fresh interpretation provides a contextual bridge to Spanish missions, settlement and rule in the northern provinces—and their conflicts with the

Carlos R. Herrera's biography of Juan Bautista De Anza provides greater understanding of the Spanish governor's difficult mission to combat the rival neighboring Comanche Nation, whose rise to power was directly related to the introduction of Spanish horses to the Southern Plains

PHOTO BY GEORGE ADDISON COURTESY OF PALACE OF THE GOVERNORS PHOTO ARCHIVES

This year *True West* marks the conclusion of the sesquicentennial of the Civil War—the beginning of the post-war West, and the 125th memorial of the Battle of Wounded Knee—yet the history of the West is not neatly trapped in 19th-century frontier history. Authors are pushing back into the earliest centuries of European exploration and settlement of the West and looking at the present to provide greater context for what our Western past means to us today.

Three recent creative works I highly recommend:

The Moor's Account: A Novel, by Laila Lalami (Pantheon Books, $26.95), is a brilliant reinterpretation of one of the earliest legendary figures of the West: Estebanico, the Moroccan slave and first black explorer of the New World.

Traders and Raiders: The Indigenous World of the Colorado Basin, 1540-1859, by Natale A. Zappia (University of North Carolina Press, $39.95), insightfully gives readers a deeper understanding of how the intersection of multiple Indian cultures and Euro-Americans created the modern West.

Showdown in the Big Quiet: Land, Myth, and Government in the American West, by John P. Bieter, Jr. (Texas Tech University Press, $70cloth/$39.95 paper), uses Owyhee County, Idaho, as a contextual model to study the real and imagined history of land-use in the West.

–Stuart Rosebrook

In *Song of Dewey Beard: Last Survivor of the Little Bighorn*, author Philip Burnham poignantly recounts the life of Miniconjou Lakota Dewey Beard (right) and his family (brothers, from left, Daniel and Joseph Horn Cloud), in the difficult transition from traditional Plains life in the 1870s through the first half of the 20th century in America.

COURTESY NEBRASKA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Apache, Comanche and Pueblo Indians—that reveals Spain's ability to successfully govern its most remote colonies with the right leadership. The obverse of de Anza's leadership in the Southwest is the slow disintegration of Spain's Empire in the Southwest and North America as the lack of empathetic, native-born leadership is usurped by cruelty and corruption. The what if question is: Would Spain have had greater success if all the Spanish king's governors on the Mexican frontier had served with such effectiveness and distinction as Juan Bautista de Anza, a true son of Sonora?

—*Stuart Rosebrook*

THE LAST SIOUX WARRIOR

We remember Dewey Beard, of the famed Miniconjou Lakota Horn Cloud family, much as this book's subtitle suggests, as the last survivor of the Little Bighorn. Dewey Beard was there, and took a soldier's life. He was with Sitting Bull in Canada, too, and with Big Foot at Wounded Knee, where he lost his father, mother, two brothers, and his wife and son. Add a stint with Cody's Wild West show; many ceaselessly fascinating years on the Pine Ridge Reservation, and, acclaim, finally, in the 1950s for all of this, and we have a remarkable American life. Philip Burnham, professor at George Mason University and storyteller in the rich vein of Ian Frazier and Tom Powers, serves up a highly recommended tale in *Song of Dewey Beard: Last Survivor of the Little Bighorn* (University of Nebraska Press, $26.95).

—*Paul L. Hedren, author of* After Custer: Loss and Transformation in Sioux Country

WORKING WOMEN OF THE WEST

Women of the wild West were tough. Michael Rutter's *Boudoirs to Brothels: The Intimate World of Wild West Women* (Farcountry Press, $14.95) illustrates their fortitude, bravery and the miracle and determination of survival. Treated like commodities to be used, abused and discarded, they lived in a world full of uncertainties. Consider "Squirrel Tooth Alice," captured at age ten by Comanches, returned three years later to family and friends who shunned her. Or "Polly" Bemis, a Chinese girl sold by her father who ended up in Warren, Idaho. Hers is a story of racial intolerance, courage and hope.

They all are stories of courage and hope. Through this book, readers peek inside

Michael Rutter's insightful study, *Boudoirs to Brothels: The Intimate World of Wild West Women*, enlightens readers to the violence women working as prostitutes experienced on the Western frontier.

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these women's worlds—thrilling, heartbreaking, terrifying. In it, myths and facts meld, forming extraordinary stories about extraordinary women.

—*Melody Groves, author of* Hoist a Cold One! Historic Bars of the Southwest

WYATT EARP REIMAGINED

New lawman Wyatt Earp tries to figure out who killed a prostitute in John Shirley's *Wyatt in Wichita: A Historical Novel* (Skyhorse, $14.95)

"When I could," Shirley notes, "I stuck to facts."

Not so much. Wyatt is in Ellsworth in 1874, witnessing the shooting of Sheriff Chauncey Whitney—which happened in 1873. In Wichita (and Deadwood), Wyatt's assisted by a pre-Billy the Kid Henry McCarty, who has caught a freight from New Mexico—hard to do since the railroad didn't reach New Mexico until 1878.

Purists might laugh at Shirley's stretches (more name-dropping than history), but, taken in stride as a not-so-historical novel, *Wyatt in Wichita* can be an entertaining read.

—*Johnny D. Boggs, author of* Mojave

John Shirley's *Wyatt in Wichita: A Historical Novel*, reimagines the adventures of Wyatt Earp and Bat Masterson on the Kansas frontier

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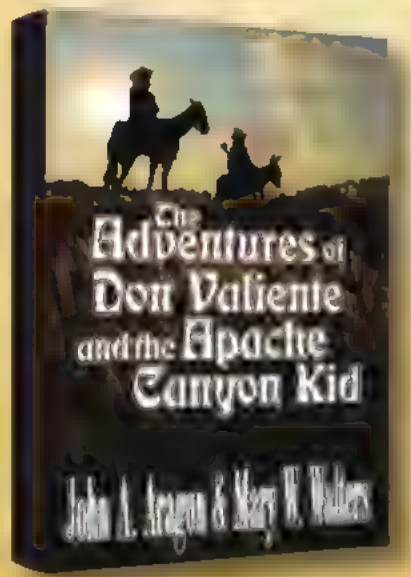

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WESTERN

WESTERN WRITERS OF AMERICA PRESIDENT SHERRY MONAHAN SHARES HER LOVE OF BOOKS

Sherry Monahan admits she didn't read her first Western until she was in her thirties—she was hooked on Agatha Christie. A native of New Jersey, she credits her father's love of all things Western, to her lifelong fascination with the West. She grew up dreaming of being a chef and owning her own restaurant. Monahan may not have become a chef, (she became a corporate policy writer and later a marketing professional for more than two decades) but her passion for food has translated into her expertise. Western food and cooking culture (see her monthly *True West* column "Frontier Fare") Her 11th and most recent book is *Frontier Fare: Recipes and Lore from the Old West* (Globe Pequot), which expertly combines her passion for culinary and Western history. Sherry guarantees you will love these five great books.

1. *A Thief of Time* (Tony Hillerman, Harper & Row) My best friend in New Jersey gave me Hillerman's classic, my first Western. Hillerman's detail of the Southwest, the culture and lore of the native peoples, and a great mystery captured my attention. That book sent me on a quest to read more of his books.

2. *She Who Remembers: A Novel* (Linda Lay Shuler, Arbor House Publishing Company) Shuler introduced me to a more historical setting of the Anasazi, their culture and struggles. The main character is Kwani, a strong woman who struggles for respect among her people. Her special talents and rare blue eyes make her a target for jealous women and fearful tribal leaders. It's also a great romance.

3. *These is My Words: The Diary of Sarah Agnes Prine, 1881-1901, Arizona Territories: A Novel* (Nancy Turner, Harper) This historical fiction reads like a real diary and I could see myself as a character in her book. Turner was able to weave a wonderful story around her ancestor Sarah Prine. Sarah was a survivor and a woman with an independent mind. There is also a nice romantic element to this book.

4. *The Writer's Guide to Every Day Life in the 1800s* (Marc McCutcheon, Writers Digest Books) Once I started writing, I purchased Marc's book. It's filled with great reference material, terms of the period, and an interesting read for writers and readers alike. This book is not only good for writers who want terms, lifestyle and other details, but anyone interested in old customs and terminology will enjoy this.

5. *Gone with the Wind* (Margaret Mitchell, Scribner) My all-time favorite book. Margaret Mitchell's prose, her ability to take the reader back in time, and the characters are colossal. Like the pioneers who traversed the West, Mitchell's characters learn to survive amid tough conditions. If you don't already have this one on your shelf, go get it now! This book is epic and the characters are larger than life. Being taken back to the South of the 1800s is both frightening and exciting.

Chinatown in 1880s San Francisco is one of the exotic tourist destinations that J. Philip Gruen examines and contrasts to the growth of rail traffic and tourism in Chicago, Denver and Salt Lake City in *Manifest Destinations: Cities and Tourists in the Nineteenth-Century American West*

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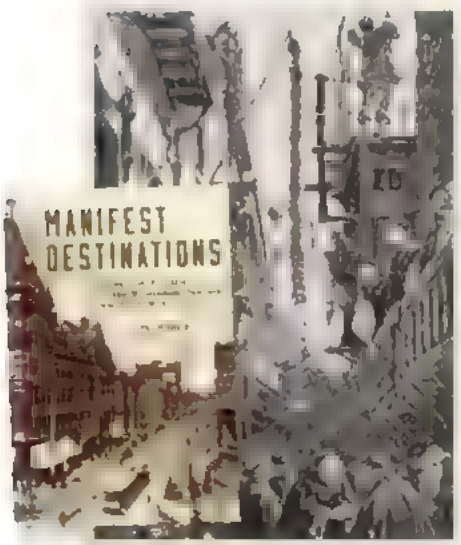
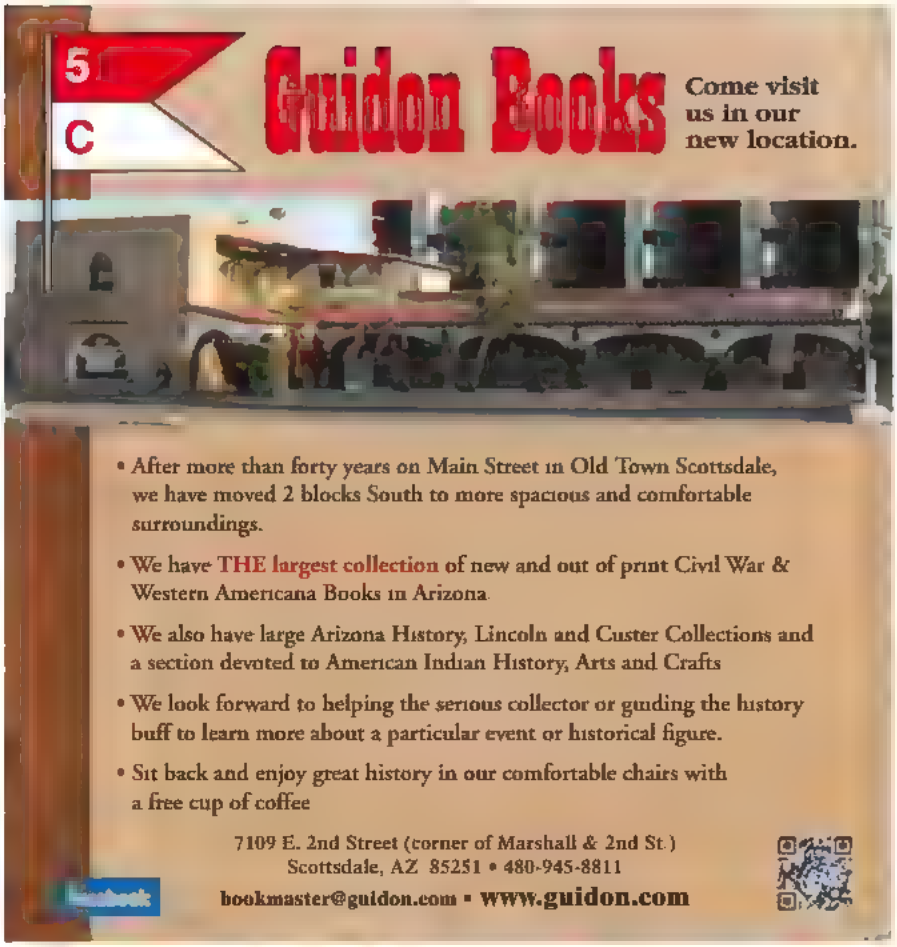


ORIGINS OF WESTERN TOURISM

Focusing on an era after the railroads provided viable visitor access to the West but before the rise of the automobile, J. Philip Gruen's poignantly titled **Manifest Destinations: Cities and Tourists in the Nineteenth-Century American West** (University of Oklahoma Press, $26.96), provides an illuminating assessment of the "modern" era of Western tourism in the cities of Chicago, Denver, Salt Lake City and San Francisco.

The book's refreshing view of these urban centers, which diverges from a more customary post-World War II interpretation, posits that it was the natural environments surrounding these cities, rather than the cities themselves, that drew visitors from across the country. Gruen's work provides a valuable framework for understanding not only the origins of modern Western tourism but of the cities themselves.

—Patrick Moore is president of the National Council of Public History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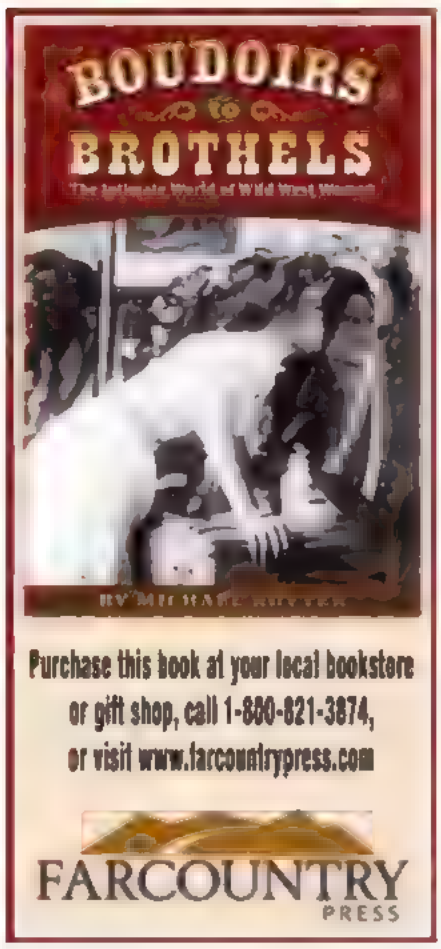
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WESTERN MOVIES & TV

BY C. COURTNEY JOYNER

For the Love of Money

Strong women help keep your gunfighter Westerns alive and well.

Netflix and Hallmark are listening to fans who are screaming loud and clear for their Westerns. On Netflix, you'll find Sheriff Walt Longmire (inset), a tough, heroic lawman who wears his heart on the sleeve of his duster. Hallmark has set aside its family fare to bring their fans Romance Westerns, like *When Calls the Heart* (above), a genre that is proving to be as popular as the shoot 'em ups.

LONGMIRE COURTESY A&E. ALL OTHER IMAGES COURTESY HALLMARK CHANNEL

The mind of a television executive can be a confusing, dangerous maze of brilliance and misconception. Last year, A&E cancelled *Longmire* because the cabler felt the audience for its hit show wasn't the "right audience." In other words, too old.

While I wrote this article, Netflix announced *Longmire's* new home, and new season, giving it the same muscle as the on-demand Internet streamer's *House of Cards* and *Orange is the New Black*.

Despite a spike in production, with a new History Channel miniseries (on the Texas Rangers) and HBO's expensive retooling of *Westworld* ready for broadcast, the TV Western has been in a delicate place the last 30 years, always having to reprove its popularity. *Hell on Wheels*, *Deadwood*, *Justified*, *Broken Trail*, *Hatfields & McCoys* and others are often viewed by executives as aberrations, forgetting the audience share and the Emmys.

If you want to see a network vice president dive under his desk, just mention "Western Romance."

The irony is that Western Romance novels are consistent and impressive sellers. Usually

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Would I choose a Western Romance over 1967's *Hombre* or 1992's *Unforgiven?*

written by excellent women authors, these books enjoy an enormous, and loyal, fan base, but often don't get the recognition of their gunfighter paperback cousins.

So, executives ask, "Who would watch that on TV?"

Countering that thinking, *The Notebook* author Nicholas Sparks's maiden TV effort was producing *Deliverance Creek* for Lifetime, which debuted last September Starring Lauren Ambrose as a widow in the post-Civil War South, *Deliverance Creek* was well made, but the show never found its target audience of Western Romance readers, so no series was ordered.

Western Writers of America President Sherry Monahan summed up the problem. "It's tough being a female Western author in today's market, and it seems our books are sub-genres of other genres. Our books appear in the history, cooking, biography, regional history and romance sections. While most books, including my nonfiction ones, sell okay, the Western Romance books are breaking sales records.

"Yet these books are not seen as Westerns. They're considered Romances that just happen to be set in the historical or contemporary American West."

The theory with current television is that lightning must strike immediately to make a show worthwhile to produce The current crop of Westerns hit it big with their pilots, with *Justified* racking up an enormous rating from the start. But just as the Western Romance's genuine success on the bookracks has been quet and steady, so has it been on television.

The Hallmark Channel has long been the home of TV Westerns, usually shot quickly and marketed as family fare. Yet Hallmark departed from its stalwart hero formula with the production of Canadian author Janette Oke's *Love Comes Softly*, in 2003, starring Katherine Heigl.

The faith-based book, published in 1979, was a success that Oke followed with seven book sequels and 10 TV movie sequels and prequels. She also launched five other book series, and her work most recently inspired a TV series for Hallmark, *When Calls the Heart*, which will start its second season this May

Oke's books, mixing romance and spiritual inspiration, have a devoted following that reaches beyond the author's book sales to that audience desiring something other than a shoot-'em-up, and the films have been produced with that in mind—fine photography and name casts are the norm.

Would I choose a Western Romance over 1967's *Hombre* or 1992's *Unforgiven?* No, but I am not the target audience. Yet I would be

Hearties unite on Twitter with #Heartie to share their passion for *When Calls the Heart* through fan art, like this humorous call for action Conquer your fears, men, and watch, you may like some of these Romance Westerns!

foolish to ignore that the genre's incredible following has created a viable offshoot of the TV Action-Western—and helps keep the Western alive.

The strong women of these films know how to handle a gun, and a man, conjuring the ghosts of Barbara Stanwyck and Gail Russell, and bringing strength to the sometimes sanitized stories.

Western Romances may not be the usual viewing for male fans of Westerns. But if we follow another trail by tuning in, or even reading a different kind of Western novel, we might be surprised at the interesting work we discover along the way.

DVD REVIEW

CRITERION AND MR. FORD

(Criterion Collection, $29.95) "I knew Wyatt Earp...I was an assistant prop boy then, and he told me about the fight at the O.K. Corral."

John Ford's statement to Peter Bogdanovich carried the weight of legend, just as *My Darling Clementine* did. The 1946 film has never looked more spectacular, nor has it been given finer treatment, than in this Criterion release.

This version of *My Darling Clementine* is the ultimate tribute to Ford's masterpiece. It is loaded with superb extras, including an excellent commentary from Ford scholar Joseph McBride and an early Francis Ford-directed silent, starring his brother.

The opinions of the best Wyatt Earp movie will go on forever, but for me, *My Darling Clementine* transcends them all to become a true piece of American folk art. Forget accuracy. Experience the legend, as Ford intended. You will never have a better opportunity than this knockout of a disc.

C. Courtney Joyner is a screenwriter and director with more than 25 produced movies to his credit. He is the author of *The Westerners: Interviews with Actors, Directors and Writers*.

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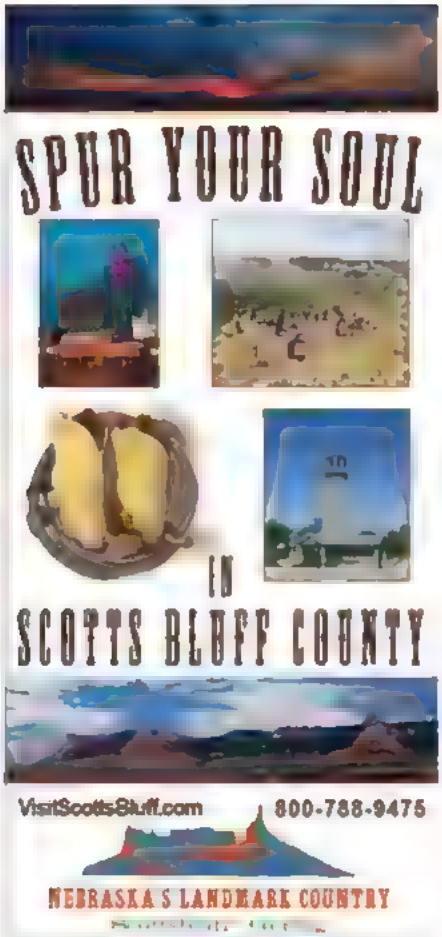


Citrus for the Rich

Citrus fruit was a great luxury on the frontier.

While Spanish missions established between 1769 and 1833 brought oranges and lemons to California, Jean-Louis Vignes, the father of California's non-mission wine, first cultivated oranges in Los Angeles in 1834. By 1866, California had more than 11,000 orange trees. By the mid- to late 1800s, pioneers were growing oranges and lemons in Texas and Arizona.

"Fruit we seldom if ever had. Occasionally dried prunes and apples were served on our table ...Oranges were a real luxury then," recalled Minnie Ford, who grew up in Canyon City, Oregon, in the late 1800s.

New Mexico had its challenges with citrus as well. Clara Huning Fergusson, a native New Mexican born in 1865, recalled, "There were no oranges or lemons, and lemonade was made from a canned preparation. Terrible stuff, but we thought it was good."

> "Terrible stuff, but we thought it was good."

Marie Oliphant, a resident of Hastings, Nebraska, who was born in 1890, also noted the limited supply of citrus: "...of course we had figs, dates, oranges, lettuce and the like at Thanksgiving and Christmas time only."

Citrus fruit, a seasonal treat for pioneers living in remote locations, was so prized that it was given as gifts. *The Rocky Mountain News* in Denver, Colorado, noted messenger Bishop West had returned to the city in May 1862 with such a present: "We're a thousand times obliged for that box of lemons, oranges and strawberries, brought on by Bishop West, but not yet delivered. Bishop, if you only was a little altered, we could 'love' you."

A week later, the paper's staff wanted more: "Fresh strawberries, pine apples and oranges have made their appearance in St. Joe and Leavenworth. Won't some kind, good old Christian brother, or sister (not quite so old), put their virtues in practice and send us on by of West or Mayfield a few 'samples' just for affection's sake."

Restaurants and hotels listed oranges on their dessert menus due to the expense of the rare citrus fruit. In the early 1870s, oranges cost about $1 per dozen, while lemons cost about 75 cents per dozen. As more fruit was grown, the prices fell.

Pioneers ate oranges fresh and sought lemons for cooking and baking. Lemon pie

was a favorite dessert, but when lemon juice or lemon extract was not available, cooks substituted vinegar

The Galveston News in Texas ran a funny story in 1880 about an orange thief. When the recorder asked the man why he had trespassed on another man's property, he replied, "I went over by mistake."

"How so?" the recorder asked.

"Well, you see," the trespasser replied, "I thought those oranges in his garden were sweet oranges, but after I had tried 'em I found they were the bitter kind, so you see I went over by mistake."

Before you make the shared Victorian recipe for citrus meringue pie, be sure to buy your citrus fruit rather than "visit" your neighbor's garden.

Sherry Monahan has penned *Mrs. Earp: Wives & Lovers of the Earp Brothers: California Vines, Wines & Pioneers, Taste of Tombstone, The Wicked West* and *Tombstone's Treasure*. She's appeared on the History Channel in *Lost Worlds* and other shows.

CITRUS MERINGUE PIE

1 c. and 2 T. sugar
1 T. butter
3 T. cornstarch
1 c. orange juice
3 egg yolks, slightly beaten
2 egg whites
Grated peel of 1 lime
¼ c. lemon juice
1 baked (nine-inch) pie crust

Rub the butter and one cup of sugar into a cream. In a medium saucepan, slowly add water to the cornstarch, stirring until smooth; then add the sugar mixture. Whisk in the egg yolks and bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring constantly. Boil for one minute and remove from heat. Quickly blend in the lime zest and lemon juice. Pour the filling into a prebaked pie crust.

To make meringue, beat egg whites and two tablespoons of sugar in a bowl at high speed until stiff peaks form. On top of the filling, spread meringue around the edges and work toward center. Leave a space in the center or add a dollop of egg whites.

Bake at 375 degrees for 15 to 20 minutes. Cool for 30 minutes and then refrigerate a minimum of four hours before serving.

Recipe adapted from *Daily Evening Bulletin* in San Francisco, California, January 13, 1883

SURVIVAL OUT WEST

BY TERRY A. DEL BENE

Surviving the Rapids

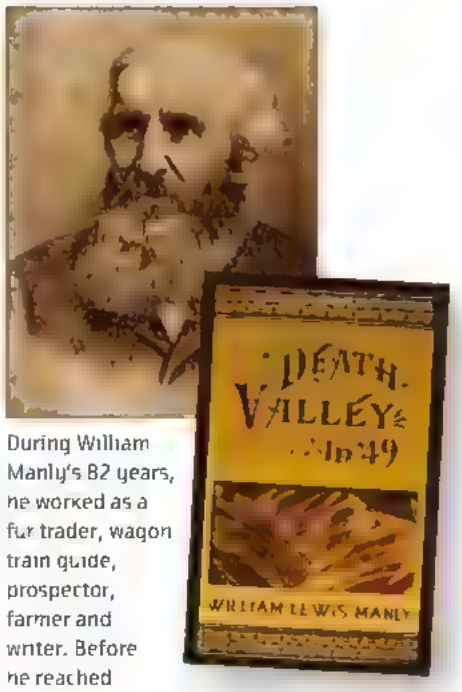
WILLIAM LEWIS MANLY'S PERILOUS FORTY-NINER JOURNEY REVEALED THE DANGERS OF RIVER TRAVEL.

In 1849, the entire world seemed to be on the move to the California gold fields. One of the "Argonauts of '49" was Vermonter William Manly. Like most of his fellow emigrants racing to the gold fields, Manly sought to reach California as quickly as possible and gather his fortune of gold, reputed to be lying around for the taking. While traveling along the California Trail, Manly and friends concocted an outlandish scheme to float down the Green River to the Pacific Ocean.

When the crew reached Wyoming's Green River in early August, the men found a gift from heaven—a 12-foot-long boat had been abandoned on a sandbar. So Manly, Richard Field, Charles Hazelrig, Joseph Hazelrig, M.S. McMahon, John Rogers and Alfred Walton decided to take the river route. They repaired and packed the boat for the adventure and, at Manly's command, shoved off into the unknown.

MANLY WAS CAST INTO THE DANGEROUS WATERS. HE LANDED HARD ON HIS BACK, AMAZINGLY UNHARMED.

At first, the river was gentle and slow, but as the party continued south, the currents increased. The men had a harder time using long poles to keep the boat from crashing into the increasingly frequent rocks. Manly was cast into the dangerous waters when his pole lodged between two rocks. He landed hard on his back, amazingly unharmed. He shook off the perilous experience and the rescue by his cheering crew as "nothing."



During William Manly's 82 years, he worked as a fur trader, wagon train guide, prospector, farmer and writer. Before he reached California, he lived in the frontier environs of Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio and Dakota Territory. His autobiography (shown) details his life and the expansion westward, particularly concerning the gold rush of 1849.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

Prospectors who journeyed in boats laden with months' worth of supplies and heavy mining equipment faced hazards such as springing a leak, which happened to the boat in this 1897 photograph taken in Yukon Territory. Two men repaired the leak while their three partners stood on the shore of the river with their unloaded supplies.

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HISTORY IN ART

BY ILLUSTRATOR ANDY THOMAS

I painted the moment when the two smaller canoes flip, losing most weapons and nearly killing one man. In William Manly's more detailed description, the swampings came from a fast straight section. My version implies they were in a cataract. The historical descriptions are vague, and it's hard to say my painting isn't right.

The dangers of crossing high-running streams can be seen here in this photograph of the wrecked Weaverville stage near Redding, California

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

At Ashley Falls, Manly and the crew were forced to unload the boat and attempt to pole the empty vessel past a large rock surrounded by swift swirling currents. The boat became inextricably stuck and had to be abandoned. The party fashioned canoes and then walked their boats and gear around the dangerous waterfalls.

Continuing downriver in the unstable canoes tasked the travelers. A canoe flipped in rapids near Lodore, almost drowning Walton. In this mishap, most of the party's weapons were lost in the turbulence.

The party continued by portaging around rapids. On September 12, after traveling an estimated 430 river miles, they met with Ute Chief Walkara, who strongly suggested their survival required them to abandon the river route and walk toward Utah's Great Salt Lake City.

Field and McMahon did not heed the sage advice. They journeyed downriver and were forced to abandon their canoe in Desolation Canyon and walked overland to Wyoming. They eventually made it back to Salt Lake City, Utah, that winter.

Manly and the other four finished their 200-mile journey back to the emigrant trail. The Hazelrig brothers and Walton split from the group to travel the Mormon Trail. Manly and Rogers joined with the California-bound Jefferson Hunt Party, fated to become famous in Western lore as the emigrant party that gave "Death Valley" its name; but that is another story.

Terry A. Del Bene is an archaeologist and freelance writer who worked for many years for the Bureau of Land Management in Wyoming before he retired to Alaska in 2010.

SURVIVAL TIPS

HOW TO BUILD A CANOE

Although a canoe could be a precarious vessel in turbulent waters, subject to capsizing, the keel of the canoe allowed occupants to pilot the craft more easily around obstacles. The classic dugout canoe, in vogue well into the 19th century, was made by hollowing out a log (see 1897 example below). A bull boat could be made faster—by stretching a skin over a frame to produce a bowl-like craft—but it was not the most reliable of vessels.

Folks made dugout canoes by using a simple adze—an axe blade set at a right angle to the tool's shaft. They used the adze to hollow out a log, leaving a sufficient thickness of the canoe wall to hold the cargo. They then used a knife to shape and smooth the keel and inner walls.

A canoe may have required more investment in time to build, but for long journeys, the vessel was the superior watercraft for traveling the rivers and lakes of the Old West.

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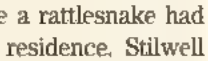
TRUE WEST

Whirlwind of the Prairies

As a renowned frontier scout, he was known as "Comanche Jack" and "Wildcat Jack." The Comanches referred to him as "Whirlwind of the Prairies." His full, given name was Simpson Everett "Jack" Stilwell, and he made his name at the Battle of Beecher Island, in 1868, where he and his fellow scouts fought Roman Nose and his Cheyenne warriors to a standstill. Surviving numerous charges, Maj. George A. Forsyth sent Stilwell and another scout to get reinforcements. Crawling out through the Indian lines, the two scouts managed to make it by hiding in the carcass of two dead buffalos, where a rattlesnake had also taken up residence. Stilwell famously spit tobacco juice in the snake's eyes and avoided detection. He lived out his life as a deputy U.S. marshal and later a police judge in Oklahoma. He died in Cody, Wyoming, in 1903 at the age of 52.



See more True Western Moments
BobBozeBell.net

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TrueWestMagazine.com

Gateway to the Cascades

Historic Sisters treasures its Oregon heritage.

"...we aren't yet covered over with asphalt and strip malls..."

East of the Cascades in Oregon's Deschutes River Valley, the town of Sisters grew up near the abandoned Camp Polk, which had been founded in 1865. Homesteaders, lumbermen and cattle and sheep ranchers fueled the slow growth of downtown, including the Hotel Sisters. For decades, the hotel, built in 1912, was a landmark for rodeo participants and visitors.

PHOTOS COURTESY SISTERS COUNTRY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Faith. Hope. Charity.

Over time, the original names of the three prominent mountains near the charming community of Sisters, Oregon, have faded. But the town's commitment to preserving its heritage is going strong: In 1978, it adopted an ordinance requiring 1880s-style storefronts. In 1983, the Santiam Wagon Road was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. And in 1997, the Black Butte Ranch Historical Society (which became the Sisters Country Historical Society in 2003) was established.

Preservation, especially of old buildings, is important work, says John Hayes, one of the directors of the Sisters Country Historical Society. "Our history has a lot to do with logging and mills, and these old structures are the physical representations of our past. Because we aren't yet covered over with asphalt and strip malls, you can still see these physical aspects of the past, and touch them."

Unlike a lot of Old West towns, Sisters never boomed. Instead, the community of ranches and sawmills grew slowly, reaching a population of just 500 or so before the last sawmill closed in 1963. Folks began to drift away, but when the town became known as the "Gateway to the Cascades," its future was ensured. Today more than 2,000 lucky souls call Sisters home.

The town's roots go back to 1865, when Camp Polk was created to protect settlers and travelers from Indians. But other than a few minor squabbles, spurred more by curiosity than hostility, local tribes pretty much ignored the immigrants. The fort was abandoned less than a year after being built.

Samuel Hindman and his family arrived in 1870 to homestead a property near the old camp and set up a blacksmith shop. Before long he'd expanded the settlement to include a small store, a livery and a post office.

Cascade Avenue in downtown Sisters is the perfect place for a long weekend of exploration before adventuring out to the natural wonders and historic sites of the nearby Deschutes River Valley and Cascade Mountains.

COURTESY JUDY TREGO/SISTERS AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

In 1888 the postal service decided to move the office a few miles south and asked residents to suggest names. A local farmer named Jacob Quiberg suggested Three Sisters (as the peaks had come to be known), but postal authorities shortened it to Sisters.

As most of the community's first buildings were made of wood, few have survived. The Hardy Allen House, built 1908, is the oldest building still standing. Allen, a blacksmith, taught himself auto mechanics when horseless carriages came on the scene. He and his wife, Daisy, had their house built on Cascade Avenue, the town's main street. Decades later it was moved to its present location at Main and Fir, where it now holds a floral shop.

Spanish-American War veteran John Dennis built the Hotel Sisters in 1912. It was something of a showplace, with hot and cold running water in each of its 19 guest rooms. The town's back-to-back fires in 1923 and 1924 threatened the swanky hotel, but quick-thinking townsfolk soaked blankets and mattresses with water and placed them over the building's roof and walls. The hotel escaped with just a few paint blisters

SISTERS RODEO
DESCHUTES RIVER
METOLIUS RIVER
Find *your* pioneering spirit in Sisters Country
Make your escape to the gateway to Central Oregon, where the air is clear, the stars are bright and the sun is warm. Discover the excitement of white-water rafting or rock climbing; embark on an adventurous hike or mountain bike ride through our backyard - the Deschutes National Forest; embrace the visual treasures at galleries or enjoy a special event
Similar to settlers years ago, discover for yourself all the adventure that Sisters Country has to offer ~ Find *your pioneering spirit* by visiting one of these Sisters Country properties or www.SistersCountry.com
SISTERS RODEO
June 12, 13 & 14, 2015
SistersRodeo.com
800-827-7522
The SISTERS Country
SISTERS AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
www.SistersCountry.com
Sisters Area Chamber of Commerce 866.549.0252

Travelers enjoy the round trip adventure on the McKenzie Pass Santiam Scenic Byway to Three Sisters, the picturesque volcanic peaks, that dominate the western skyline of the town of Sisters

COURTESY SISTERS AREA OF COMMERCE

and some minor scorching. These days, Bronco Billy's Ranch Grill & Saloon occupies the first floor of the venerable old building.

You can see old photographs of the Sisters area at the Maida Bailey Library Building, named for the young woman who earned a degree from Cornell University before moving to Sisters in 1918 to help her husband run a sheep ranch.

The renowned Sisters Rodeo celebrates its 75th anniversary in June. Its popularity has only grown over time, says Glenn Miller, president of the Sisters Rodeo. Many Americans, he says, especially those who still live in ranching country, really appreciate these legacies of our Western heritage. "And so the tradition goes on."

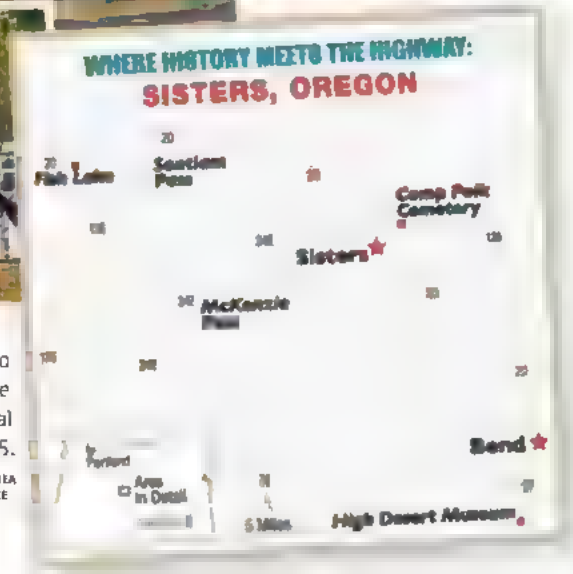
John Stanley is a former outdoors and travel reporter and photographer for *The Arizona Republic*

In 1912, John Dennis built the Hotel Sisters, now restored and renamed Bronco Billy's Ranch Grill & Saloon—a favorite destination for visitors to Sisters

COURTESY JUDY TREGO/SISTERS AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The 75th annual Sisters Rodeo and parade will celebrate the Western heritage of the central Oregon town, June 10–15.

COURTESY JUDY TREGO/SISTERS AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



WHERE HISTORY MEETS THE HIGHWAY

COURTESY JUDY TREGO/SISTERS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Drop by the Sisters Area Chamber of Commerce to pick up your Sisters Country Historical Information and Tour brochure, which includes an overview and timeline of local history, a map of 11 historical sites around town, and biographical sketches of some of the people who played a role in the community's early development.

SistersCountry.com

Then hit to road to see these sights:

BEND

Check out a Northern Paiute shelter, a fur trader's cabin, an Oregon Trail wagon, a pioneer homestead and many other fascinating items at the Spirit of the West exhibit at the High Desert Museum.

HighDesertMuseum.org

McKENZIE PASS-SANTIAM PASS SCENIC BYWAY

The 82-mile long loop is the perfect way to experience the natural and historic wonders of the Mount Washington and Three Sisters Wildernesses in the Cascade Mountains.

TravelOregon.com

CAMP POLK CEMETERY

Every tombstone tells a story in this rural graveyard a few miles north of Sisters. Ponder this inscription on the headstone of Robert Krug (1849-1919): "Murdered by A.J. Weston."

OregonEncyclopedia.org

FISH LAKE HISTORIC SITE

Although Highway 20 covers much of the 1860s-era Santiam Wagon Road, you can still see old wagon ruts at the Fish Lake Remount Station, which was added to the National Register of Historic Places last June.

FishLakeHistoricSite.org

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TRUE WEST

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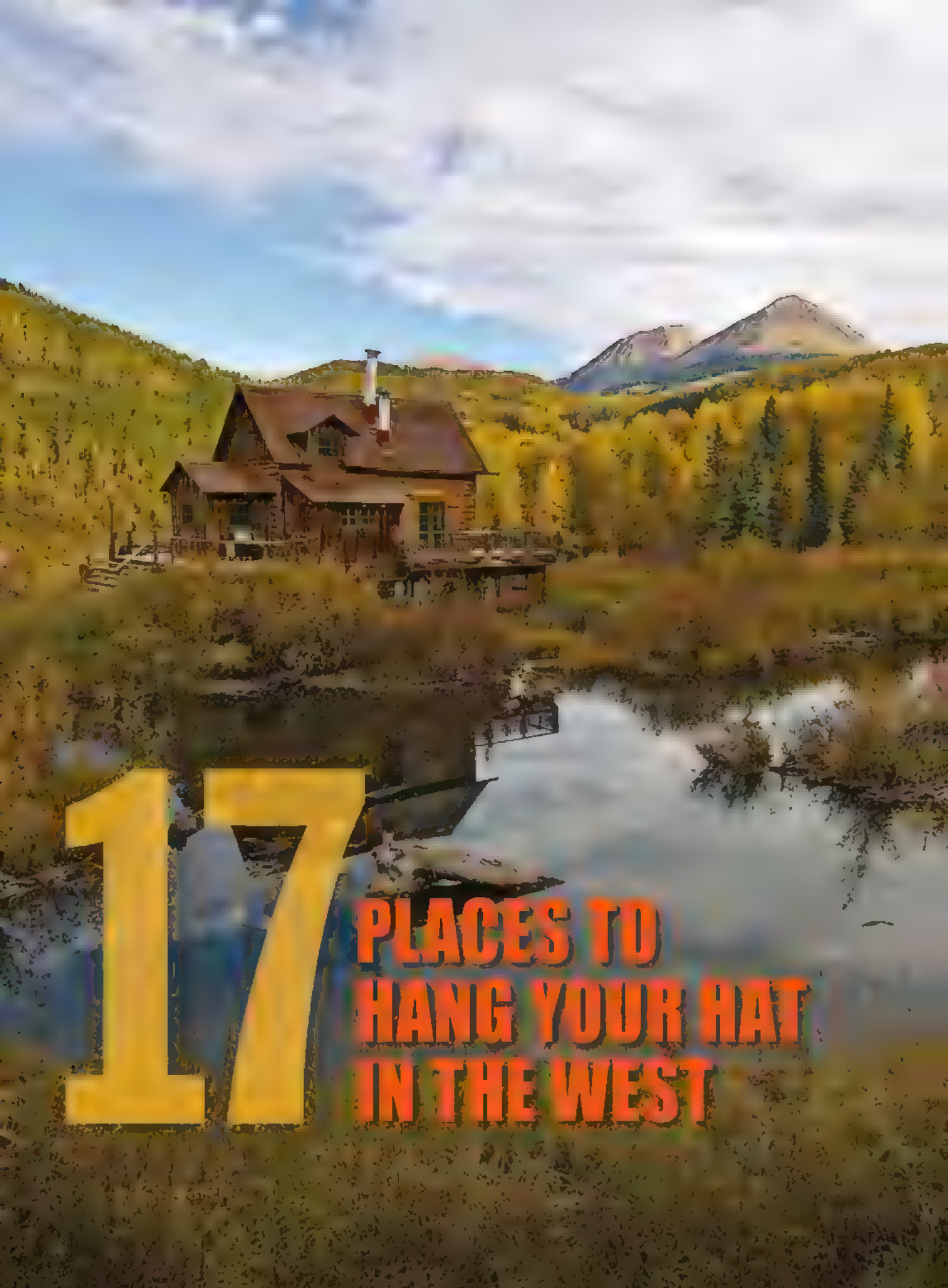
17
PLACES TO
HANG YOUR HAT
IN THE WEST

Edited by Beth Dewey

Wild West Getaways that Inspire Travel and Adventure

The grandeur and awe-inspiring beauty of the rugged, wide-open spaces of the American West have lured millions to travel to enjoy the history and heritage of the Western United States. From the California Coast to the Rocky Mountains, from the Desert Southwest to the Pacific Northwest, the proprietors of heritage hotels, guest ranches, desert retreats, historic inns and mountain lodges, open year-round or seasonally, provide first-class Old West experiences. Adventures and activities available to guests include round-ups, trail rides, campfires and cookouts, guided fly-fishing, back-country hiking and skiing, spas, retreats and gourmet dining. Amenities include historic saloons and luxurious guest rooms.

True West's editorial team invites our readers to plan their Western getaway today, and—like New Yorker Theodore Roosevelt, who was inspired to visit the Dakota Badlands after reading about Howard Eaton's Custer Trail Ranch in a New York newspaper—rediscover the heart, history and heritage of the West at one of America's great Western hotels, guest ranches or historic inns.

—Stuart Rosebrook

Luxury guest ranch Dunton Hot Springs is an elegantly restored ghost town with 13 historic accommodations, spa, gourmet kitchen and hot springs in the San Juan Mountains near Telluride, Colorado

COURTESY DUNTON HOT SPRINGS

DUDE RANCHERS' ASSOCIATION

Cody, Wyoming

Whether you're a staunch horseman who loves being in the saddle, or a rider who prefers a choice of other activities in addition to riding, one of the members of the Dude Ranchers' Association will fit the bill. All of the member ranches uphold the highest standards in the industry and are committed to preserving the Western way of life. This sampling of ranches is sure to appeal to a variety of travelers:

Working Ranches

Located at the base of Wyoming's Big Horn Mountains, Klondike Ranch can accommodate six to ten guests at a time. Guests are encouraged to work cattle with the ranch hands. Other activities include camping, fishing and hiking.

Traditional Ranches

In addition to the riding program, guests of all ages at C Lazy U Ranch in Colorado can enjoy fly-fishing, trap shooting, a ropes course and an outdoor heated pool and hot tub. At Bar W Guest Ranch in Montana, 30 guests per week can ride on a million acres of varied terrain, as well as practice skeet-shooting, archery and roping. The riding program at Greenhorn Ranch in the High Sierra Mountains of California accommodates all levels of experience and even encourages trotting and loping.

Luxury Ranches

Established in 1868, Tanque Verde Ranch in Arizona is recognized as the last luxurious outpost of the Old

West. It provides guests with plush accommodations, unparalleled amenities and an array of things to do including horseback riding, mountain biking, fishing and hiking.

Working and Luxury Ranches

Guests are treated like family at Red Reflet Guest Ranch in Wyoming, exploring the 25,000-acre ranch via horseback, working cattle, riding mountain bikes and enjoying abundant wildlife. Hideout Lodge & Guest Ranch is a unique combination of an upscale working cattle, riding and fly-fishing ranch. Located near Yellowstone National Park, it's one of the biggest operational ranches in Wyoming.

For a complete listing of all-inclusive Dude Ranchers' Association member ranches, visit *DudeRanch.org*

Dude Ranchers' Association
P.O. Box 2307, Cody, WY 82414
866-399-2339 • *DudeRanch.org*

FLYING E RANCH

Wickenburg, Arizona

With the bluest of blue skies, mountains vistas, excellent food and the legendary hospitality of the Old West, the Flying E Ranch is the place to take you a step back in time. Clean air, warm sun, good horses, breathtaking scenery and genuine cowboys as your guides will fill your hearts with memories to treasure for the rest of your life.

We are relaxed and casual, jeans are the height of our dress code. Bring a warm jacket for those cool nights, but don't forget your swimsuits for the heated pool and hot tub.

Our rooms provide the ideal starting place for your day on the ranch, or a lazy-day retreat and a restful night. Surrounding the main lodge, the rooms are easily accessible to dining and other ranch activities.

In the main lodge the coffee pot is always on and the cookie jar always full! Fresh air really sharpens the appetite, and you'll find yourself eagerly awaiting the sound of the chow bell! Delicious, bountiful meals are prepared by our Flying E ranch cooks and served up family-style in the dining room.

Since 1946 the Flying E Ranch has specialized in authentic Western hospitality, with great horses for every rider, ranch-style meals and a comfortable place to relax at the end of the day. Whether you choose to ride, help out on the ranch, see the sights, or just kick back and allow the magic of the desert to relax and inspire you, we're here to make your Flying E Ranch vacation an original Western ranch experience.

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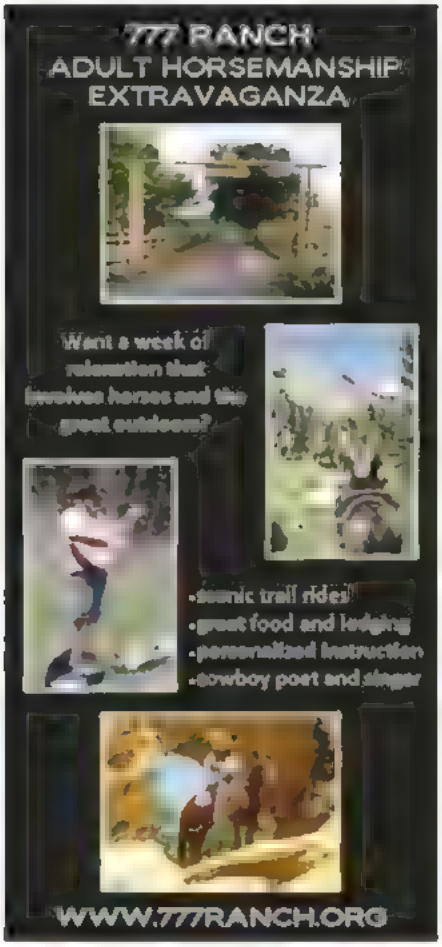
2801 W. Wickenburg Way, Wickenburg, AZ 85390
928-684-2690 • *FlyingERanch.com*



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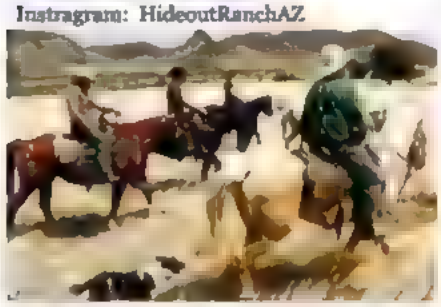

MAYAN DUDE RANCH

Bandera, Texas

You can be part of the Western tradition that has produced seven world champion rodeo cowboys. There is a "rootin' tootin' cowboy" in all of us. We will help you fulfill those dreams. Picturesque trails on over 348 acres wander from the lowlands of the Medina River, then horseshoe through the ranch, and travel high in the hills for a panoramic view of the valleys beyond. The ranch is located 47 miles northwest of San Antonio, high in the beautiful Hill Country of Texas. You will find yourself in a wonderful world of fantastic Western warmth and a special brand of "Horsepitality." Hidden behind the Western scene are up-to-date facilities and amenities. The Mayan Ranch has been owned and operated by the Hicks family for 65 years.

Mayan Dude Ranch
P O. Box 577, Bandera, Texas 78003
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ELKHORN RANCH

Tucson, Arizona

Experience traditional guest ranch family hospitality at Elkhorn Ranch southwest of Tucson, Arizona. Ride ranch-raised and trained horses amidst the open Sonoran Desert ranching country of the Altar Valley and the rugged Baboquivari Mountains. Families, couples and solo travelers enjoy camaraderie from mid-November through April. Enjoy a weeklong or longer relaxing adventure vacation complete with fresh baking and hearty healthy food.

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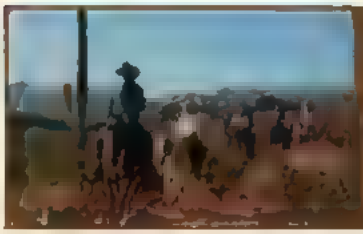

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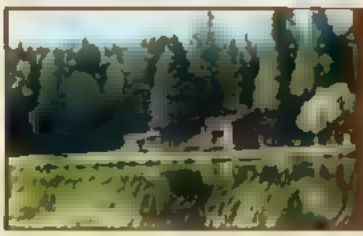

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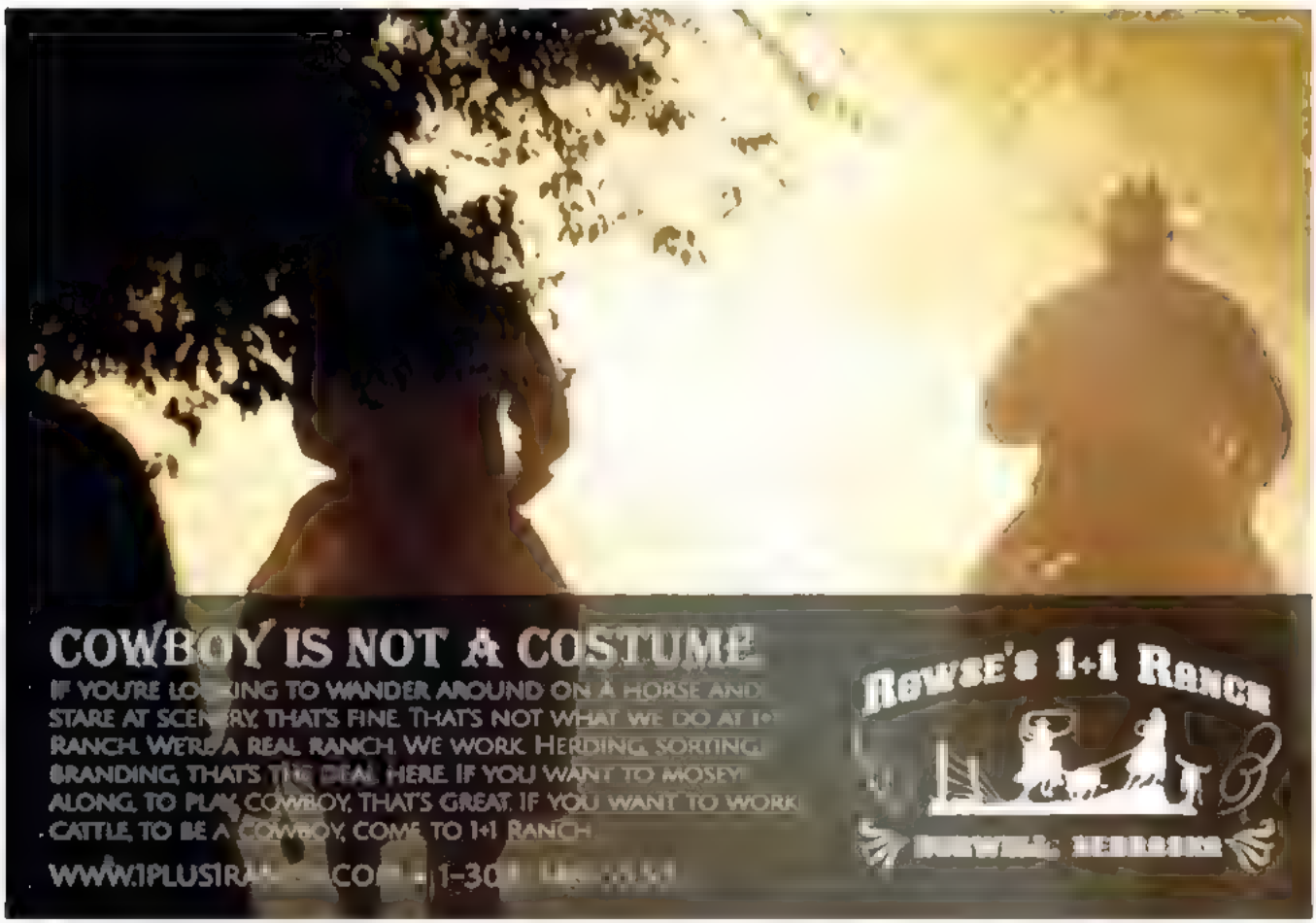
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BUFFALO BILL'S IRMA HOTEL

Cody, Wyoming

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His plan was to have travelers stay and dine at the hotel while in route to Yellowstone. His vision continues today. The hotel is on the National Register of Historic Places. The cherry wood bar, a gift from Queen Victoria, is one of the most-photographed features in Cody. You can dine on The Irma's famous prime rib. Choose from an expansive selection at breakfast, lunch and dinner buffets; or select from a full menu.

Plan to dine and stay the night at this historic hotel. Fancy enough for royalty and comfortable enough for everyone, the Irma Hotel is the heart of Cody, Wyoming!

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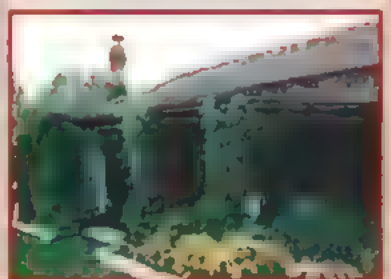


ROWSE'S 1+1 RANCH

Burwell, Nebraska

What are you looking for in a ranch vacation? Do you want golf, yoga, spa days and all the attendant luxuries? Or are you looking to work cattle, have solid time in the saddle, and truly see what ranching is all about? If you're looking for a true ranching experience in one of America's unique landscapes, then Rowse's 1+1 Ranch is what you're looking for.

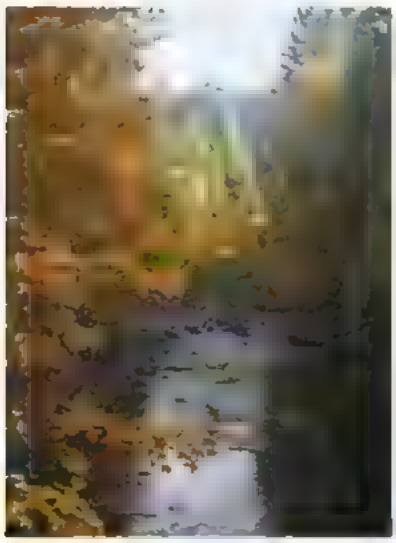
Set on the eastern edge of the Nebraska Sand Hills just outside the town of Burwell, the 1+1 Ranch is a true working ranch. Each day's activities are largely decided by the needs of the cattle. You will spend several hours each day in the saddle, helping cowboys the work cattle, checking pastures, and roping and sorting. To do this work you need a good horse. You will be teamed up with a gentle, well-schooled quarter horse that will be yours to ride as you complete daily ranch work with the Rowses.

The 1+1 Ranch accommodates up to 10 adults at a time. This isn't the ranch for everyone and children aren't allowed. The reason for those restrictions is that 1+1 is a working cattle ranch, not a resort. If your idea of a perfect vacation is to go on head-to-tail trail rides or have your entire day scripted for you, Rowse's 1+1 Ranch may not be the place for you. For the true ranching experience, choose Rowse's 1+1 Ranch!

Rowse's 1+1 Ranch
46849 833rd Road, Burwell, NE 68823
308-346-5530 • *1Plus1Ranch.com*

COFFEE CREEK RANCH

Coffee Creek, California



Unwind and relax at Northern California's finest guest ranch resort surrounded by picture-postcard views of the Trinity Alps Wilderness. Coffee Creek is an excellent fly-fishing stream, running wild through 367 acres. Fifteen secluded private cabins are located along the babbling creeks and tall conifers. The ranch offers exceptional summer programs for children ages 3 to 17, romantic weekends, fall foliage, deer and bear-hunting and pack trips in season, and will host weddings, meetings and family reunions. The resort-style ranch has taken in guests who leave as friends for 115 years!

Coffee Creek Ranch
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Coffee Creek, CA 96091
800-624-4480
CoffeeCreekRanch.com

OCCIDENTAL HOTEL

Buffalo, Wyoming

Occidental Hotel was founded in 1879 in a tent on the banks of Clear Creek, at the foot of the Bighorn Mountains in Buffalo, Wyoming, and became a favorite stopping place along the Bozeman Trail. In 1880, a log structure was constructed and hosted many of the most famous people of the Old West. Owen Wister, author of the classic Western novel, *The Virginian*, frequented the Johnson County area and based his characters on gunslingers and cowboys he'd met in Occidental's Saloon. The current brick buildings, constructed between 1903 and 1908, replaced the original log structure. Two restoration projects, in 1990 and 2008, took the Occidental back to those turn-of-the-last-century days with period furnishings but modern conveniences.

Visitors today enjoy the the historic Occidental Saloon, Busy Bee Cafe, and The Virginian Restaurant, which serve fine steaks, gourmet wild game and specialty desserts. Experience an authentic Old West stay in the Occidental's Historic Hotel and Living Museum.

Occidental Hotel

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A COWBOY'S DREAM BED AND BREAKFAST

Alamo, Nevada

A Cowboy's Dream Bed and Breakfast is located near the historic town of Alamo in southern Lincoln County, Nevada, just 90 miles north of Las Vegas, adjacent to the rich Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuge. Founded by Phyllis Frias as a destination rooted deep in the spirit of family and tradition in honor of her late husband Charles Frias, a Cowboy's Dream is a unique alternative to a Nevada retreat, as the property is dedicated to the ultimate in exclusive luxury amenities. A wide variety of sophisticated spaces are available to accommodate your stay. The house offers a Great Room that is second to none as well as a charming Bunk House where guests can socialize and unwind. A dance hall and wedding pavilion hold special events. Hearty, decadent fare is served up in the Dining Room and, upon request, a Business Center with computer workstation, high-speed Internet access and audio-video capabilities is available.

A Cowboy's Dream Bed and Breakfast

95 Hand Me Down Road, Alamo, Nevada 89001 • 775-725-3500 • *CowboysDream.com*

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Long Hollow Ranch
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Hunewill Guest Ranch • P O. Box 368 Bridgeport, CA 93517
760-932-7710 • *HunewillRanch.com*

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The Three Seven's Ranch, a working cattle ranch in Ferron, Utah, offers adult horsemanship camps that include horsemanship instruction and scenic rides in the rugged Butch Cassidy desert country of the San Rafael Swell and the breathtaking mountain landscape of the Manti-La Sals. Camp size being kept small (maximum 15 riders) allows for individualized instruction, meeting the needs of beginners to advanced riders, and creates a family-like atmosphere. Rounding out the program are arena games, trail rides around the ranch, a horse challenge course, and topics demonstrated and taught such as training the horse from start to finish. Delicious meals are served three times daily on the trail or back at the home place. Comfortable log lodge rooms and cabins provide a restful night's sleep. Each evening ends with cowboy singer and poet Jeff Gore entertaining guests with stories and songs about the cowboy way of life.

The Three Seven's Ranch • P.O. Box 1025, Ferron, Utah 84523
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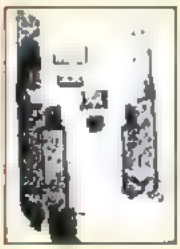

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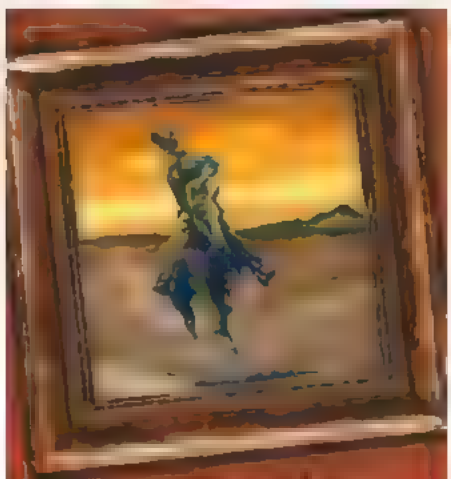

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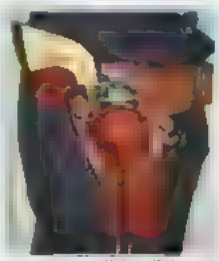
BOBBOZEBELL.NET



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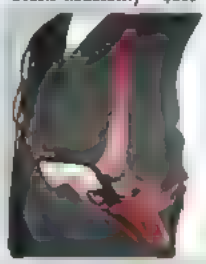

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WESTERN ROUNDUP

FOR MARCH 2015

1840s MOUNTAIN MAN CAMP

Bartlesville, OK, Opens March 18: This authentic 1840s mountain man encampment offers a place for visitors to shoot blackpowder rifles and learn the proper art of throwing a tomahawk.
918-336-0307 • *Woolaroc.org*

ART SHOWS

PANHANDLE PLAINS INVITATIONAL ART SHOW & SALE
Canyon, TX, March 7: Contemporary Southwestern art for sale to raise funds for the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum.
806-651-2244 • *PanhandlePlains.org*

MASTERS OF THE AMERICAN WEST
Los Angeles, CA, Closes March 8: Exhibits artworks by Howard Terpning and more than 75 other nationally recognized Western artists.
323-667-2000 • *TheAutry.org*

COWGIRL UP!
Wickenburg, AZ, Opens March 20: Opening gala at the Desert Caballeros Western Museum kicks off the invitational exhibit of Western art by women.
928-684-2272 • *WesternMuseum.org*

CATTLEMEN'S WESTERN ART SHOW & SALE
Paso Robles, CA, March 27-29: More than 50 Western painters and sculptors showcase their art, plus art by headliner artist Ernie Morris
805-464-9335 • *CattlemensWesternArtShow.com*

LLANO ART STUDIO TOUR
Llano, TX, March 28: Visit with approximately 20 Western and American Indian artists working in a wide range of mediums in their creative workspace.
325-247-5354 • *LlanoArtStudioTour.Yolasite.com*

DRAWN TO LIFE: AUDUBON'S LEGACY
Orange, TX, Opens March 28: Showcases pastels, engravings, lithographs and other John James Audubon works portraying North American wildlife.
409-886-2787 • *StarkCulturalVenues.org*

APPETITE FOR ART: RELISH THE WEST
Omaha, NE, March 31: Join Joslyn Art Museum curators for lunch and a gallery talk focused on artworks by nonconformist Maynard Dixon.
402-342-3300 • *Joslyn.org*

AUCTIONS & SHOWS

FINE FIREARMS, EDGE[illegible] & MILITARIA AUCTION
Irvine, CA, March 7-8: Bid on collectible, rare and historical firearms and military memorabilia at this southern California auction.
888-298-8199 • *CWOCAuctions.com*

AMARILLO WESTERN ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES SHOW
Amarillo, TX, March 13-15: Antique firearms, American Indian artwork and more at the longest running Western show and auction in America.
517-568-4188 • *AmarilloWesternShow.com*

THE RUSSELL
Great Falls, MT, March 19-21: The C.M. Russell Museum honors artist Charlie Russell's birthday with a Western art exhibit and auction fundraiser.
406-727-8787 • *CMRussell.org*

COWBOY DAYS

Las Cruces, NM, March 7-8
Experience Western history with cowboy demonstrations, live music, cooking, living history, gunfight-re-enactments and stagecoach and horseback rides.
575-522-4100
NMFarmAndRanchMuseum.org

WESTERN ROUNDUP

FOR MARCH 2015

TUCSON FESTIVAL OF BOOKS

Tucson, AZ, March 14-15: Join Old West authors and historians at the University of Arizona for panel discussions and book signings, plus *True West* will honor our 2015 True Westerner of the year, Marshall Trimble. *TucsonFestivalOfBooks.org*

HERITAGE FESTIVAL

KAMLOOPS COWBOY FESTIVAL

Kamloops, BC, Canada, March 12-15: BC Cowboy Heritage Society hosts art and cowboy gear trade show, workshops, dinner theatre and music. 888-763-2221 • *BCCHS.com*

ARIZONA RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL & ARTISAN MARKETPLACE

Gold Canyon, AZ, Closes March 29: Old West time travelers can take in medieval arts and crafts, jousting tournaments and an outdoor circus. 520-463-2600 • *RoyalFaires.com*

PHOTOGRAPHY PANEL

SHOOTING THE WEST

Winnemucca, NV, March 3-8: Photoshop Hall-of-Famer Ben Willmore and others offer workshops to help you photograph the West in its best light. 877-623-3501 • *ShootingTheWest.org*

POWWOW

DENVER MARCH POWWOW

Denver, CO, March 20-22: This annual powwow features the grand entry, intertribal dances and contests, plus arts and crafts and storytelling. 303-934-8045 • *DenverMarchPowwow.org*

RE-ENACTMENTS

SILVER SPIKE FESTIVAL

Tucson, AZ, March 21: Re-enacts the 1880 arrival of the Southern Pacific Railroad to Tucson and showcases a display of the original Silver Spike. 520-623-2223 • *TucsonHistoricDepot.org*

GOLIAD MASSACRE RE-ENACTMENT

Goliad, TX, March 28-29: Re-creates the occupation of Fort Defiance and the 1836 Goliad Massacre, with memorial service on the last day. 361-635-3752 *PresidioLaBahia.org*

1836 CHUCKWAGON RACE

Neches, TX, March 1-8: Watch five classes of wagon races, plus enjoy trail rides, dutch oven cooking classes, cowboy poetry and cowboy mounted shooting. 903-721-9111 *1836ChuckwagonRace.com*

WILLIAMSBURG FILM FESTIVAL

Wuhamsburg, VA, March 4-7
Dedicated to preserving Hollywood's Golden era by screening classic Western films, this year's festival features discussions with special guests, including Johnny Crawford and *True West* Executive Editor Bob Boze Bell (above)
757-482-2490 • *WilliamsburgFilmFestival.org*

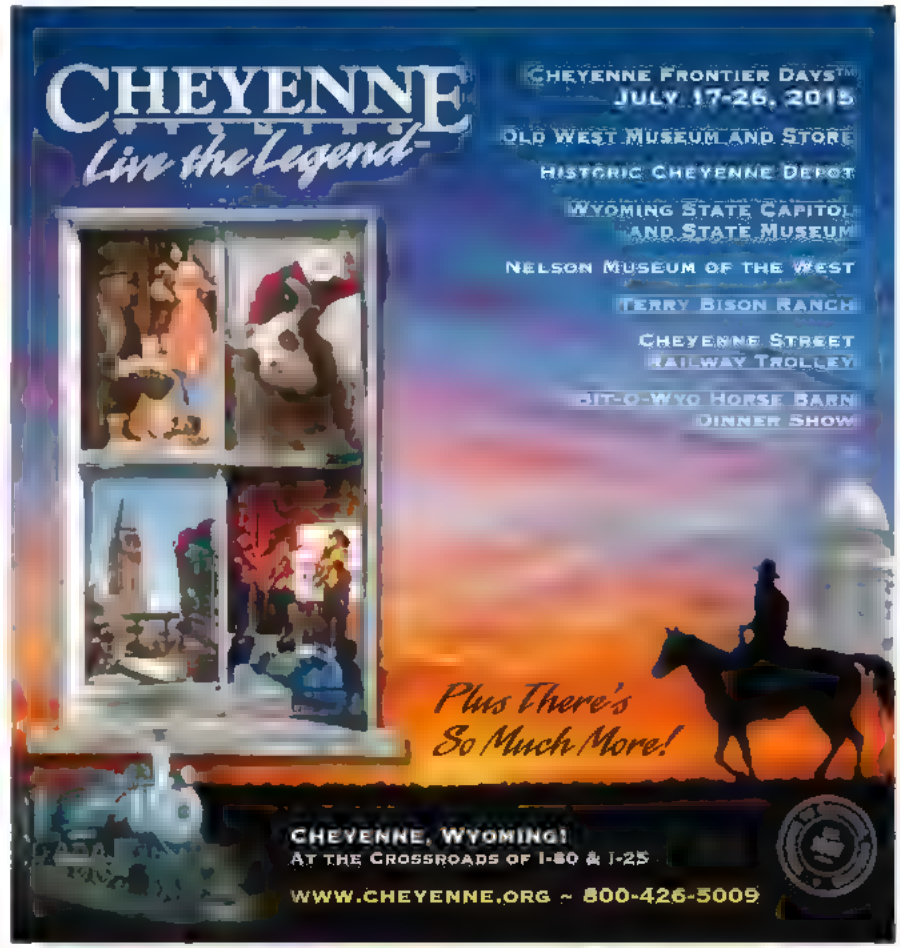
WINNEMUCCA RANCH HAND RODEO

Winnemucca, NV, Feb. 25-March 1 Ranch hands compete in rodeo events, plus you can see cow dog trails, horse and bull sales, and a trade show
775-623-5071 • *RanchRodeoNV.com*

CRANE WATCH FESTIVAL

Kearney, NE March 19-22 More than 500,000 Sandhill Cranes migrate to the Platte River Valley in order to "fuel up" before resuming their northward migration.
800-652-9435 • *VisitKearney.org*

TWMag.com:
View Western events on our website.



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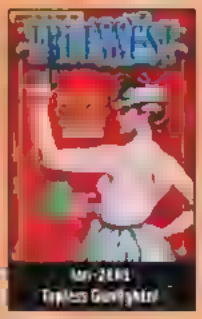

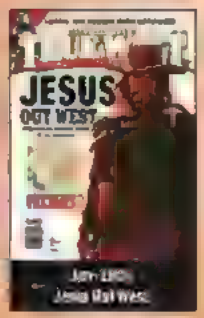

WHILE THEY LAST!

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2000
- ☐ Jan: Buffalo Bill
- ☐ ~~Feb: Outlaw Women~~ *Sold Out!*
- ☐ Mar: Richard Farnsworth
- ☐ ~~Apr: Lotta Crabtree~~
- ☐ May: Samuel Walker
- ☐ Jun: Frontier Half-Bloods
- ☐ Jul: Billy & the Kids
- ☐ Aug: John Wayne
- ☐ Sep: Border Breed
- ☐ Oct: Halloween Issue
- ☐ Nov: Apache Scout
- ☐ Dec: Mountain Men

2001
- ☐ Jan: Topless Gunfighter
- ☐ ~~Feb/Mar: Wyatt Earp~~
- ☐ ~~Apr: Geronimo Surrender~~
- ☐ May/Jun: Custer
- ☐ Jul: Cowboys & Cowtowns
- ☐ ~~Aug/Sep: Wild Bill~~
- ☐ ~~Oct: Regimen~~
- ☐ ~~Nov/Dec: Doc Holiday~~

2002
- ☐ ~~Jan: Uncommon Men~~
- ☐ ~~Feb/Mar: Alamo~~
- ☐ ~~Apr: Indexed~~
- ☐ ~~May/Jun: Wayward Women~~
- ☐ ~~Jul: Texas Rangers~~
- ☐ Aug/Sep: Jesse James
- ☐ Oct: Billy On The Brain
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Butch & Sundance

2003
- ☐ Jan: 50 Historical Photos
- ☐ Feb, Mar: 50 Guns
- ☐ Apr: John Wayne
- ☐ Spring: Jackalope Creator Dies
- ☐ May, Jun: Custer Killer
- ☐ Jul: Doc & Wyatt
- ☐ Aug/Sep: A General Named Dorothy
- ☐ Oct: Vera McGinnis
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Worst Westerns Ever

2004
- ☐ Jan, Feb: 5 x Guns
- ☐ Mar: Fakes, Fake Doc
- ☐ April/Travel: Visit the Old West
- ☐ May: Iron Horse/Sacred Dogs
- ☐ Jun: HBO's Deadwood
- ☐ Jul: 17 Legends
- ☐ Aug: JW Hardin
- ☐ Sep: Wild Bunch
- ☐ Oct: Bill Pickett
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Dale Evans

2005
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Rare Photos
- ☐ Mar: Deadwood, McShane
- ☐ Apr: 77 Sunset Trips
- ☐ May: Trains/Collector's Edition
- ☐ Jun: Jesus Out West
- ☐ Jul: All Things Cowboy
- ☐ Aug: History of Western Wear
- ☐ Sep: Gambling
- ☐ Oct: Blaze Away/Wyattt
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Gay Western? Killer DVDs

2006
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Mexican Insurgents
- ☐ Mar: Kit Carson
- ☐ Apr: I've Been Everywhere Man
- ☐ May: The Racial Frontier
- ☐ Jun: Playing Sports in the OW
- ☐ Jul, Aug: Dude! Where's My Ranch?
- ☐ Sep: Indian Yell
- ☐ Oct: Tombstone 125th Ok Corral
- ☐ Nov: Gambling
- ☐ Dec: Buffalo Gals & Guys

2007
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Cowboys Are Indians
- ☐ Mar: Trains/Jim Clark
- ☐ Apr: Western Travel
- ☐ May: Dreamscape Desperado, Billy
- ☐ Jun: Collecting the West/Photos
- ☐ Jul: Man Who Saved The West
- ☐ Aug: Western Media/Best Reads
- ☐ Sep: Endurance Of The Horse
- ☐ Oct: 3:10 To Yuma
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Brad Pitt & Jesse James

2008
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Pat Garrett/ No Country
- ☐ Mar: Who Killed the Train?
- ☐ Apr: Travel/Geronimo
- ☐ May: Who Stole Buffalo Bill's Home?
- ☐ Jun: The Last Cowboy President?
- ☐ Jul: Secrets of Our Nat'l Parks/Teddy
- ☐ Aug: Kendricks Northern CBs/Photos
- ☐ Sep: Saloons & Stagecoaches
- ☐ Oct: Charlie Russell
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Mickey Free

2009
- ☐ Jan, Feb: Border Riders
- ☐ Mar: Poncho Villa
- ☐ Apr: Stagecoach
- ☐ May: Battle For The Alamo
- ☐ Jun: Custer's Ride To Glory
- ☐ Jul: Am West, Then & Now
- ☐ Aug: Wild West Shows
- ☐ Sep: Vaquero/500 Yrs Before CBs
- ☐ Oct: Capturing Billy
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Chaco Canyon

2010
- ☐ Jan, Feb: Top 10 WesternTowns
- ☐ Mar: Trains/Pony Express
- ☐ Apr: OW Destinations/Clint Eastwood
- ☐ May: Legendary Sonny Jim
- ☐ Jun: Extreme Western Adventures
- ☐ Jul: Starvation Trail, AZ Rough Riders
- ☐ Aug: Digging up Billy the Kid
- ☐ Sep: Classic Rodeo
- ☐ Oct: Extraordinary Western Art
- ☐ Nov, Dec: Black Warriors of the West

2011
- ☐ Jan, Feb: Sweethearts of the Rodeo
- ☐ Mar: 175th Anniv Battle of the Alamo
- ☐ Apr: Three True Grits
- ☐ May: Historic Ranches
- ☐ Jun: Tin Type Billy
- ☐ Jul: Viva, Outlaw Women!
- ☐ Aug: Was Geronimo A Terrorist?
- ☐ Sep: Western Museums/CBs & Aliens
- ☐ Oct: Hard Targets
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Butch Cassidy is Back

2012
- ☐ Feb: Az Crazy Road to Statehood
- ☐ Mar: Special Entertainment Issue
- ☐ Apr: Riding Shotgun with History
- ☐ May: The Outlaw Cowboys of NM
- ☐ Jun: Wyatt On The Set
- ☐ July: Deadly Trackers
- ☐ Aug: How Did Butch & Sundance Die?
- ☐ Sep: The Heros of Northfield
- ☐ Oct: Bravest Lawman You Never
- ☐ Nov: Armed & Courageous
- ☐ Dec: Legend of Chimax Jim

2013
- ☐ Jan: Best of the West/John Wayne
- ☐ Feb: Rocky Mountain Rangers
- ☐ ~~Mar: Arizona Rangers~~
- ☐ Apr: US Marshals
- ☐ May: Texas Rangers
- ☐ Jun: Doc's Last Gunfight
- ☐ Jul: Comanche Killers
- ☐ Aug: Tombstone 20th Anniv
- ☐ Sep: Ambushed on the Pecos
- ☐ Oct: Outlaws,Lawmen & Gunfighters
- ☐ Nov: Soiled Doves
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Marshall Trimble is Arizona's official historian. His latest book is *Wyatt Earp: Showdown at Tombstone*. If you have a question, write Ask the Marshall, P.O. Box 8008, Cave Creek, AZ 85327 or e-mail him at marshall.trimble@scottsdalecc.edu. Please include your email address and/or phone number.

The Last Gunfighter?

What made John Wesley Hardin such an effective gunfighter?

Kerry Creech
Lake City, Florida

John Wesley Hardin was apparently fearless in the face of death and did not hesitate when it came time to pull the trigger. Just as important, most of Hardin's victims were slower on the draw and never had a chance to go for their guns. He may have been a gambler in trade, but not when it came to his life.

Who was the last Old West gunfighter?

Scott Karkos
Las Vegas, Nevada

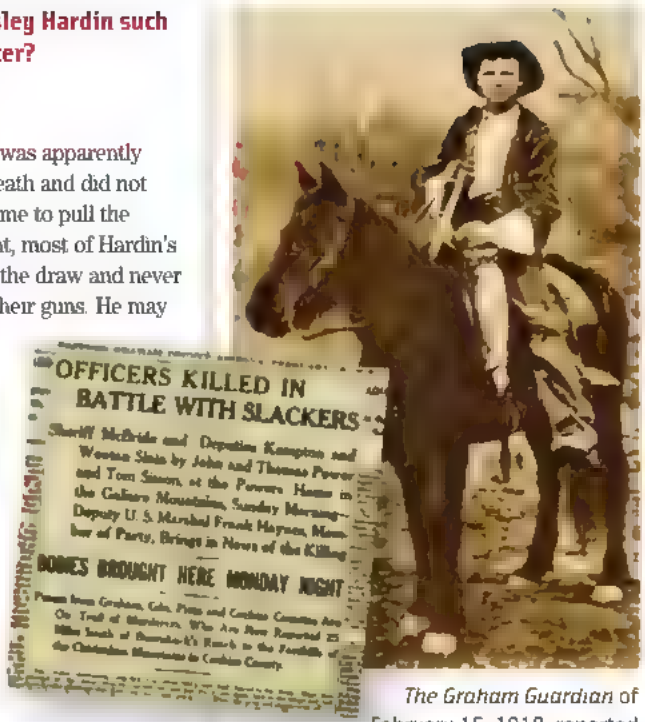
Answering that question is difficult. Some obscure gunfighters did not attract the attention of writers. Also, unlike wars, the Old West era does not have a definitive end.

That said, in my opinion, the last gunfighter was John Power, the last surviving member of a shoot-out in the Galiuro Mountains northeast of Tucson, Arizona, on February 10, 1918.

Looking to arrest draft dodgers Tom and John Power, a four-man posse approached the Power cabin about daybreak and opened fire, mortally wounding the boys' father. The two brothers and pal Tom Sisson returned fire.

The Power brothers and Sisson killed Graham County Sheriff Robert McBride and two deputies. The lone survivor from the posse, Deputy U.S. Marshal Frank Haynes, had approached the cabin from the back when the shooting started, so he did not witness the fight.

Nearly 30 days later, the boys were captured south of the U.S.-Mexico border.


OFFICERS KILLED IN BATTLE WITH SLACKERS

BODIES BROUGHT HERE MONDAY NIGHT

The Graham Guardian of February 15, 1918, reported the death of the three posse members at the hands of John Power (above), Thomas Power and Tom Sisson.

ALL IMAGES TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

All three were sentenced to life in prison (Arizona had briefly rescinded the death penalty). Sisson died behind bars in 1957. The Power brothers were released in 1960 and pardoned nine years later. Tom died the next year, at age 77, while John died in 1976, at age 84.

Was "Arizona Charlie" Meadows real?

Barry Waldbaum
Centereach, New York

Yes, Charlie Meadows was a real person. I call him Arizona's first superstar.

Born in Visalia, California, in 1859, during a rare snowstorm, he moved with his family to Arizona. In the summer of 1882, Apaches raided the Meadows ranch north of Payson, killing his father and brother, and wounding another brother. Meadows took over running the ranch.

In 1884, he helped organize Payson's first rodeo, dubbed the "world's oldest, continuous rodeo." Riding his white horse, Snowstorm, Meadows won almost every event. In 1888, he beat Tom Horn in a roping contest in Payson and won at rodeos in Prescott and Phoenix. By 1890, he was performing in Wild West shows, including William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody's.

Meadows struck it rich at the Klondike Gold Rush, but lost his mine in a poker game. The theatre he opened in Dawson, Yukon Territory, is still in operation.

He retired near Yuma, Arizona. A reckless auto driver, he survived an accident in 1932, when friends told him to be careful, he replied, "It'll be a snowy day in Yuma when they plant this old Hassayamper."

Meadows died on December 9, 1932. On that day, it snowed an inch and a half in Yuma. It hasn't snowed there since.

"Arizona Charlie" Meadows sits on his horse, Snowstorm, that brought him rodeo fame.

Actor Chuck Connors was one of the few men who played both major league baseball (Brooklyn Dodgers and Chicago Cubs) and pro basketball (Rochester Royals and Boston Celtics). The Chicago Bears also drafted him to play football.

What happened to Chuck Connors?

Dan Clutter
Denison, Iowa

Born in 1921, Chuck Connors is best remembered for his role of Lucas McCain on *The Rifleman*, which aired on ABC from 1958-1963. The pilot was originally an episode of *Zane Grey Theatre* written by Sam Peckinpah. Connors acted in Hollywood for 40 years. He died of lung cancer on November 10, 1992.

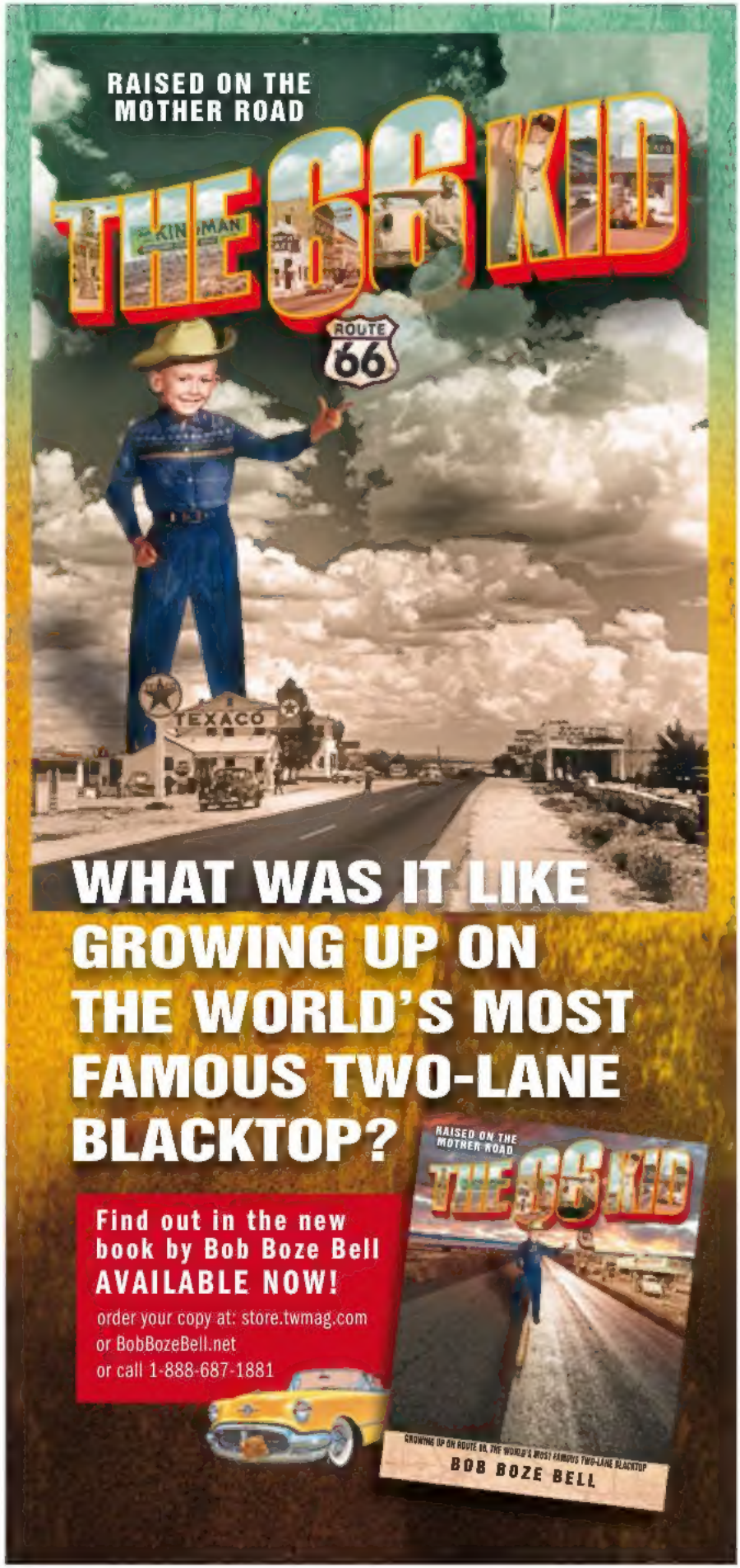
Did Wild Bill Hickok allow for trajectory in his 1865 duel?

Bill Sutton
Glendale, Arizona

James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok's shoot-out against Davis Tutt in Springfield, Missouri, on July 21, 1865, has been described as one of the few classic Hollywood-style gunfights. Hickok's kill shot traveled 75 yards before hitting Tutt in the heart.

Gun expert Jim Dunham, who has visited the gunfight site, says, "luck played a significant role in winning that fight. Most gunfights, both then and now, are close encounters. Beyond 25 yards, the lead bullets start dropping considerably, probably several inches.

"However, the old guns often grouped shots high. If Hickok used the .36 Navy Colt, the lead would drop less than the .44 caliber rounds. But Bill probably aimed above the point of impact by quite a few inches."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What HISTORY HAS TAUGHT ME

Andy Thomas's favorite place to visit for Old West history is Fort Smith National Historic Site in Arkansas, home of "Hanging Judge" Isaac C. Parker's court (see Parker and 1897 courthouse view at left).

– COURTESY ANDY THOMAS, ANDYTHOMAS.COM –

ANDY THOMAS, ARTIST

The newest member of our *True West* family, Andy Thomas has applied his Fortune 500 marketing acumen to his paintings of the Old West (see p. 63). Not only will his work be featured at the C.M. Russell Museum's annual benefit auction in Great Falls, Montana, this March, but he also will have a retrospective show at the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, Oklahoma, this April. Featuring the largest body of his work ever displayed, he calls it the "highlight of my career." The father of six children and grandfather to nine, he lives in Carthage, Missouri, with his artist wife, Dina.

Charlie Russell is special because he combined artwork with authentic cowboys, Indians, history and a drink or two. Good man, that Charlie.

For *Charlie Russell and His Characters,* the bartender is the only character not from a Russell painting because he is Sid Willis, saloon owner and art patron.

When *True Blues* was used as a clue on *Jeopardy!* I felt a sense of irony. In 1969, my father was a contestant on *Jeopardy!* He lost his $300 winnings by missing Final Jeopardy. I got it back. They paid me $300 to use the image.

Seeing my Ronald Reagan painting in Hector Mendoza's office for Netflix's *House of Cards* is a great conversation starter at cocktail parties. I don't go to cocktail parties.

More people should know about Old West artist Will James. His supposed autobiography, *Lone Cowboy*, was pretty much a fabrication. His real life of cattle rustling, mysterious bad deeds and great drawings would have made a better story.

Norman Rockwell's realism taught me two things. First, I learned to enjoy a storytelling painting. Second, I have learned how incredible his skills were. He was a genius.

The strangest Old West narrative I have come across is John Dunn Hunter's *Memoirs of a Captivity Among the Indians of North America*. Now, how much is actually true....

Working as vice president of marketing for a Fortune 500 company (Leggett & Platt) was actually fun. I always thought I had the best job in town. I still think that.

Both my hands got severely injured from a shop explosion while experimenting with a mold for a sculpture. That incident, and a few others, convinced me that painting is the only activity that protects me from myself.

For *Custer at Little Big Horn,* my bandaged left hand became my painting hand because the right one was in worse shape. Painting as a southpaw was tedious, but not as tedious as day television.

Having Wild Bill Hickok biographer Joseph Rosa as a fan of my Hickok art means plenty to me. He's a great writer and a thorough researcher.

Presidents playing poker came to me by a phone call. It was suggested to me, and I couldn't resist the challenge. Many of my paintings have been suggested to me. I try to keep an open mind.

The tale I am looking to paint next is a tough one. I'd like to do a memorable painting of the 1876 Battle of the Little Big Horn from the Indian point of view. The research is intimidating.

This year's C.M. Russell Museum benefit auction will have *Sundance and the Wild Bunch Hit the Union Pacific* both in an oil painting (mine) and a bronze (by Greg Kelsey). Greg and I decided to do the same moment.

To tell a story visually requires a lot of small touches. I was told that the great illustrator Howard Pyle said, "If you're painting a man in a sword fight, don't paint his hand gripping the sword, paint his hand gripping the sword as if his life depended on it."

What most people don't know about me is I'm not much of a horseman. Let's say I can't ride like the people I paint.

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